



NEWSBRIEFS

Angels project

For several families in the El Paso area, there are angels looking out for them — Aztec Angels, that is. Since 2003, the student body at El Dorado High School has participated in the Aztec Angels project which began when the school opened in 2003. The Angels team up with the Salvation Army to select names from the Angel tree set up by the charity. In four years, the school has increased the number of children they “adopt.” “We have 100 angels this year,” says El Dorado senior and project coordinator Julius Mannix. “This was one of the projects that we started when then school opened that took hold and every year we add more names. With more students and teachers coming on board, we can expand the project school-wide,” he says. Every 4th period class at the far East El Paso high school is participating by bringing toys and clothing or donating money which will be used by the school’s Business Professional of America club to buy presents for the “Angels.” Mannix says their Angels range from 1-year-olds to teens. Since late November, students have been collecting toys, bikes, clothes and games which were handed over to the Salvation Army on Friday, Dec. 15.

Be careful parking!

The El Paso Police Department’s Disabled Parking Enforcement Team (DPE) will be working and issuing citations for disabled parking violations throughout the city. With Christmas Eve being one of the busiest shopping days of the year, the DPE will focus on the Eastside shopping centers looking for vehicles parked in the areas designated for disabled drivers. The DPE is a team of volunteers who have undergone training from the department and are authorized to issue parking citations. The fine for parking in a Disabled Parking zone is \$275. If you are interested in becoming a member of DPE you can contact Ray Borrego, Volunteer Program Coordinator, at 564-7349.

Free adult classes

Socorro ISD Community Education is again offering free classes for adults in a wide range of subjects which include English as a Second Language (ESL), GED training in both English and Spanish, and computer classes that include Introduction to PowerPoint. Daytime classes and Monday through Friday at the Community Learning Center, 313 S. Rio Vista Rd. ESL classes are 8 a.m. to noon; and GED and computer classes run from 12:45 to 2:45 p.m. Evening classes are Monday through Thursday, 6 to 8:30 p.m. at different locations. Saturday classes 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Community Learning Center for ESL and GED Classes. For more information call 937-1700.

In other news

■ Effective Dec. 15, construction on

See BRIEFS, Page 4

A friend will strengthen you with his prayers, bless you with his love, and encourage you with his hope.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

A POTFUL — EPCC Art Instructor Mary Scott introduces students to the clay bowl process.

Mission students design bowls to help fight hunger

By Irma Flores
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — It was a different kind of homework assignment on Dec. 12 for 100 students at Mission Early College High School. Instead of the usual math problems, essays and science experiments, they learned how to make clay bowls. As they listened to El Paso Community College Art Instructor Mary Scott describe how to use the clay and mold it into bowls, they became part

of the greater lesson, to help one another. The bowls the students were making will be sold as a fund-raiser to help fight hunger in the El Paso community.

The Empty Bowls Project is a non-profit organization dedicated to positive and lasting social change through the arts, education and projects that build community. Scott spent the day with the students talking to them about the process and the mission.

“It’s an art experience for the students” says

See BOWLS, Page 2

Holiday check fraud and forgery alert

By Rick Glancey
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — During the past four holiday seasons, several bogus checks have been presented for payment at various stores in the county or at money exchange houses. These checks are limited strictly to the Bond Inmate Trust Section (BITS) of the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office. This is the money returned to an inmate from his or her account when the inmate is released from the County Jail.

Individuals in the past have attempted to cash fraudulent checks that bear the Sheriff’s Office logo. The Sheriff’s Office bank accounts are secured from this type of fraud.

If you doubt the authenticity of check issued by the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office (BITS)

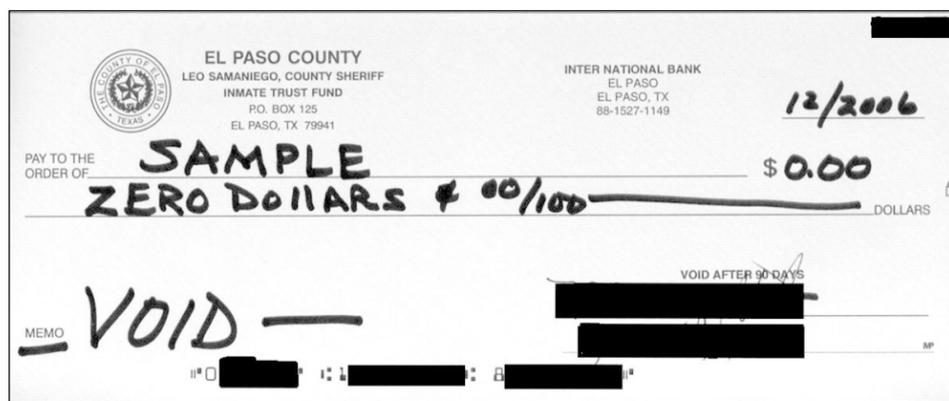
you can contact the Bond and Inmate Trust Office Monday - Friday (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) At 546-2293 and have the check verified. After hours call (915) 546-2249 and ask to speak to a cashier.

In 2004, at least two vendors collected fraudulent checks.

On Jan. 10, 2003, an El Paso man was arrested for forgery as he allegedly attempted to pass a forged check at the Melek Service Center at 306 E. Paisano, in south-central El Paso.

In 2002, approximately 50 bogus checks turned up in El Paso County. This scam was traced to group of people from New Jersey.

Some businesses frequently targeted by the scam artist include, Wal-Mart, Casa de Cambio with various outlets along Paisano Street, grocery stores in south El Paso and downtown general merchandise stores.



— Photo courtesy El Paso Sheriff’s Office

REAL DEAL — This is what a legitimate El Paso County check looks like.

Horizon High School senior, Martinez, wins \$200K scholarship

By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — He was recruited much like a football star, flown to colleges throughout the U.S. Ironically, in the end, senior David Martinez selected Claremont-McKenna, a school he did not visit.

Martinez, currently number one in the Class of 2007, earned a \$200,000 scholarship through QuestBridge College Match. Martinez earned the scholarship after going through several intensive processes.

“First I had to apply to the QuestBridge College Match Scholarship which involved several essays, three extensive recommendations — two from teachers, one from the counselor — submit my high school transcript and provide a list of hon-

ors and awards,” said Martinez. The impressive thing was that Martinez became one of 900 finalists out of some 3,300 applicants, then was one of 102 students selected on the final cut.

“When I became a finalist, I had to sign a contract saying that I would attend whichever college I was matched with,” said Martinez. “I could rank up to ten colleges, but I ranked only eight.”

Martinez received all-expense-paid visits to Williams College, Williamstown, MA; Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH; Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine; and Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa.

“I learned, first and foremost, to keep my mind open and explore all that the college had to offer,” said Martinez. “Although I didn’t visit Claremont-McKenna, I’m not worried about not liking the school. I am just absolutely thrilled about having won a full ride there. I have signed a contract to attend, so I have to go there.”

Located in Claremont, CA, Martinez’s school is ranked Number 12 nationally among liberal arts colleges. When one thinks small, the size of the college could be compared to Horizon High School as evidenced by information from the 2007 Edition of the U.S. News and World Report Guide to America’s Best Colleges.

That guide lists Claremont-McKenna as having 1,139 full time students and is highly selective with only a little over 18 percent of all applicants accepted.

Martinez wanted a college with a small student-to-faculty ratio which he found at Claremont-McKenna with its nine to one ratio. With plans to major in political science, Martinez also wanted a college where students were passionate about study, but also took time to have fun.

When asked what advice he would give to underclassmen wanting to apply to become QuestBridge scholars, Martinez had several suggestions.

“Go to their web site which is

See SCHOLARSHIP, Page 4



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Strain a gnat

There is an old Biblical saying about straining a

gnat and swallowing a camel. Basically, it means that folks will ignore the most gross miscarriage of justice while bringing down, with undue force, the hammer of justice to punish the smallest of infractions.

It happened not long ago when a little boy of early elementary age was charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate on the cheek. Never mind that on any given day thousands of teachers in America turns a deaf ear to the most horrific use of vulgar language spouted from the mouths of teenage boys, often directed at their female classmates.

Schools make parents provide, in

triplicate, an "approved list" of those who are allowed to pick up a child from school. However, the schools are not nearly so careful to see who the child actually leaves with, especially after they reach middle school age.

Every time there is a public shooting, folks scream for new gun laws when it is apparent that the person who did the shooting was already violating about a gazillion unenforced gun laws already on the books.

There was a recent example of straining a gnat that made national headlines. This incident got plenty of attention albeit with a chuckle or two.

Getting on planes has become a real big deal since September 11. It's not that I think this is a bad thing. Of course we should beef up security and be a little more careful about who

gets on our planes and what these folks are carrying with them when they do.

No guns, please. The arm-length hunting knife should probably stay at the house. No sticks of dynamite.

Now, however, we're down to measuring the capfuls of cologne a person can bring along. And that's not all we're measuring. Apparently, security experts think you cannot bring down a plane with four books of paper matches. However, bring five books on board and you're busted, buddy.

Especially if you strike one.

Want to know how I know? Well, it all had to do with a little case of flatulence.

This is the saga of an unfortunate woman — who probably wishes she could take a temporary vacation from planet Earth about right now — who has an unspecified medical condition that causes her to pass gas. Well, the poor thing was on an airplane between Dallas and Nashville when you-know-what happened. Being a person of consideration for her fellow passengers, she whips out her

book of matches and strikes a couple with the intent of masking the odor with the sulfur smell of the smoke.

Unfortunately, her fellow passengers were not comforted by her courteous air-freshening. Instead they were alarmed by it and the plane made an emergency landing.

After locating their pseudo-terrorist, the flight crew and the 99 or so passengers reboarded the plane and flew merrily on their way.

All except her.

Now, Lynne Lowrance, spokeswoman for the Nashville International Airport Authority, said it was apparent the woman meant no danger to her fellow passengers. She said the whole situation was a little humorous. She even expressed sympathy for the woman and noted that it was unusual for someone to go to such measures to cover up an unpleasant body odor.

The upshot of the situation was that the woman was not only prohibited from continuing the flight but has also been banned indefinitely from flying on American Airlines.

My questions are these.

If airline security can bring criminal charges against a person for striking a match on an airplane, why do they not make passengers stash them in their other luggage?

Who was the genius that said that four books of fire-starters aren't dangerous but five are?

Worst of all, if they could tell the poor woman was not intent on endangering anyone and they declined to press charges against her, why must they ban her from flying on their airlines in the future?

Now, I've come to the conclusion that this must have been an older woman because most young people I know give themselves bonus points if they produce a real stinker. No way are they going to try and cover up such an accomplishment.

But this woman could teach any classmate-kissing youngster or wanna-be terrorist a thing or two.

Not only did she make the airlines look silly for swallowing a camel while straining a gnat but she also brought down an airplane with just a couple of paper matches — and a little gas.

Convicted juvenile comes of age, is transferred to adult prison

By Elhiu Dominguez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — County Attorney José R. Rodriguez has announced that Adam Curiel, the 17-year-old juvenile convicted of capital murder in November of 2003, will be transferred this week to an adult prison to serve the remainder of his 40-year sentence.

Curiel, a resident of Chaparral, N.M., was convicted of the fatal shooting of 54-year-old Chuck Potts, a highly decorated Vietnam War veteran who was working as a convenience store clerk in Northeast El Paso on Oct. 29, 2002, when the incident happened.

On Nov. 7, 2003 a San Antonio jury declared Adam Curiel delinquent, the juvenile justice system

equivalent of guilty, and sentenced him to 40-years in prison. That is the maximum sentence for a juvenile under Texas law.

The Texas Human Resources Code mandates that a juvenile sentenced for Capital Murder under the determinate sentencing laws must be transferred from the Texas Youth Commission to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, into an adult prison, upon his 21st birthday, unless the juvenile has already served 10 years of his sentence.

Curiel will be 21 years old on Friday, Dec. 15, 2006, and has only served four years in prison. As a result he will automatically be transferred to an adult prison by this Friday to serve the remainder of his sentence.

Because the Texas Government Code requires juveniles convicted of

capital murder who are transferred to TDCJ to serve at least half their sentence before they are eligible for a parole hearing, Curiel will need to serve at least 16 more years before he is considered for a parole hearing,

and even then, the hearing does not guarantee that he will be released.

"The transfer of Adam Curiel to the State penitentiary serves as a lesson to juveniles who commit violent crimes like capital murder; they will

do time in adult prison, and we will continue to pursue all legal avenues, such as the Texas Determinate Sentence Statute, to protect and safeguard the community against offenders like him," Rodriguez said.



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— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

SHAPED TO PERFECTION — Mission Early College High School student Alejandra Ramirez works on her clay creation.

Bowls

From Page 1

Scott who will take the clay bowls to the Valle Verde Campus for the final steps of firing and glazing.

On Jan. 27 their bowls will be sold for \$10 each and all proceeds will go to the West Texas Food Bank for El Paso County. Participants can choose their handmade bowl and sit down to a bowl of soup and bread provided by the El Paso Community College Culinary Department with Chefs

from the American Chef Federation of Greater El Paso Chapter.

For freshmen Rebecka Cortland, Alejandra Ramirez, and Anna Vazquez, the lesson proved to be fun and enlightening.

"It's going to help people in El Paso," says the 15-year-old Alejandra as she worked the clay into the bowl shape. "I saw it done at a festival here at EPCC and they told us what we were going to do I was excited to help."

For more information on the Empty Bowls Project please call Mary Scott, at 831-2460.

Empty Bowls Project

"In this speed and greed world

A beautiful hand made bowl

A small thing

Seemingly inconsequential

Like ourselves

Like the hungry

Made of clay

Textured-rough and smooth

Treated by hand

Held, shaped, caressed

Marked, cherished

A beautiful hand made bowl

A symbol of what is most valuable

Formed with pressure

Left to dry

Scraped sanded colored

Like ourselves

Like the hungry

Put through fire

Seemingly inconsequential

A small thing

A beautiful hand made bowl

In this speed and greed world



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— Photo courtesy Anthony ISD

'Celebrities' serve lunch at Anthony ISD

UPPER VALLEY — The Anthony Independent School District has been celebrating the holiday season with several planned activities throughout its campuses including dramatic plays, secret Santa gift exchanges, hanging decorations, etc. One of the events that draws a lot of attention is the "Celebrity Server Lunch." On Dec. 13, board members, administrators, and staff volunteered to serve a specially prepared meal at the cafeterias for all AISD students. Everyone was treated to a holiday meal consisting of ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, and dessert. Superintendent Vern Butler, shown above with CISD Board Secretary Christine Singh said it was in line with his personal policy of encouraging all administrators to "get out and see what's going on in the campuses. The holiday season is perfect opportunity to take the time to visit with our customers — the students."

— Contributed by John R. Carrillo

Physicians say helmets needed

By Brent Annear
Special to the Courier

When parents give bikes, skates, skateboards, and scooters to children this Christmas, "include the gift that could save a life, then make sure it fits," the physicians of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) advise.

Give a bicycle helmet, and ensure that it fits the child well, physicians recommend. "We tell parents to make sure the helmet fits down over the child's forehead, snugly, and truly protects the head," said Tamra Kay Deuser, MD, a family medicine physician in Flower Mound/Lewisville. "Otherwise, the helmet's just a pretty dressing."

When properly fitted, the bicycle helmet can prevent serious head injury or even death, which can occur when a child takes a spill on his or her bike. A well-fitted helmet is made to absorb the energy of an impact, provided it fits properly.

TMA sponsors the Hard Hats for Little Heads program, in which TMA physicians encourage children to wear bicycle helmets when riding bikes and participating in other wheeled activities. With support from TMA's philanthropic arm, the TMA Foundation, the medical society's physi-

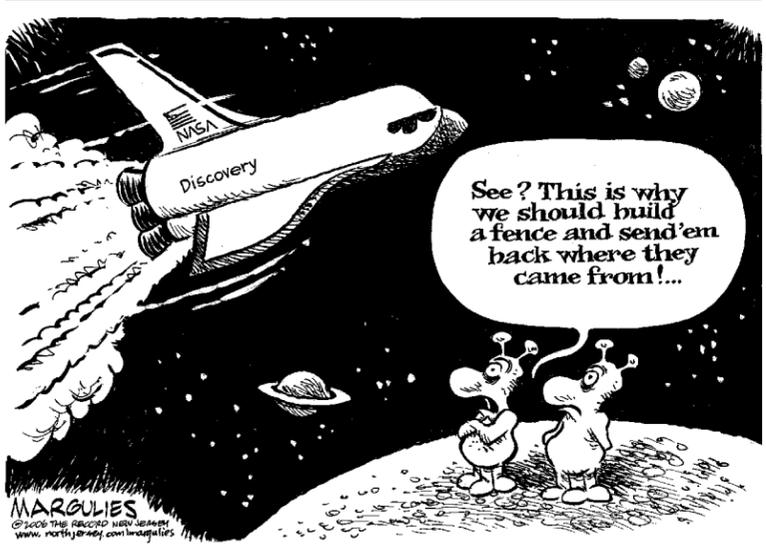
cians have given more than 30,000 helmets to children.

Dr. Deuser notes that most helmets are sized based on the child's age or weight, so parents should look for that guidance when making the purchase.

"Kids are generally very healthy — it's accidents that can cause serious, life-altering injuries or even death. We can't prevent all accidents, but we must do what we can to minimize the effects of those accidents."

TMA's Hard Hats for Little Heads physicians recommend these steps to fit a helmet:

- The helmet must sit squarely on top of the child's head.
- The front of the helmet should cover the forehead, approximately one inch above the eyebrows.
- Untwist the chin straps.
- Fasten together the ends of the chin strap and tighten them to secure the helmet to the proper fit. The straps should be snug but comfortable.
- Use the pads included with the helmet to make it fit snugly.
- Test the fit by pushing the helmet with your hand. If it shifts or slides off, adjust the straps to tighten the fit, or try a different-size helmet. "If they wiggle their head and the helmet bobs around, the fit is not good enough," advises Dr. Deuser.



Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore Dec. 19, 1926: Birthday of Santa Anna born NFL Hall of Famer Bobby Layne.



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

USO still working to brighten a soldier's life

Once again, the holiday season approaches as thousands of servicemen and women are serving overseas in Iraq, Afghanistan and across the world. They are mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, friends and relatives to many of us here in El Paso and across the country, and the holidays just aren't the same without them.

Here in El Paso, we recently said good-bye to the members of the Fourth Brigade Combat Team as they deployed to Iraq, and as a combat veteran, my heart goes out to these men and women and their loved ones. I know how hard it is to spend the holidays separated from both home and family. While there are many opposing opinions about our involvement in Iraq, we all have the utmost respect for our service members and want to bring them home as soon as possible.

To help ease the burden on our military personnel and their families, I am continuing my work with the United Services Organization (USO). The USO coordinates concerts, comedy performances and other events for those stationed at home and abroad. They are also well known for their care packages, which are filled

with music, snacks and phone cards, and shipped overseas by the thousands. I am a founding member and co-chair of the Congressional USO Caucus, through which I play a leadership role in strengthening congressional support for the USO. We have coordinated many "Care Package Stuffing Parties" on Capitol Hill, offering Members of Congress the opportunity to help fill thousands of packages. I have also worked with the USO as they have increased their presence in El Paso. We are now home to the "Wounded Warrior Room," a USO initiative at William Beaumont Army Medical Center. This comfortable, inviting space provides entertainment and companionship for wounded Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom soldiers to use while they are undergoing treatment.

This past August, I was proud to announce another joint venture with the USO in El Paso — the opening of the 4,000 square foot USO Center at Fort Bliss. The center renovated a dark building on base nicknamed "The Cave" into a bright, welcoming creative space for our soldiers. Amenities include a seating/reading area, pool tables, home theatre

lounge, gaming area, Cyber Café and snack bar. One of the most sought-after services by soldiers is internet connectivity, and the Cyber Café allows soldiers, many of whom do not own a computer, to maintain the ties with home and friends far away through e-mail access.

I have traveled to Iraq and Afghanistan many times since the start of combat operations and know how dedicated and committed our soldiers are to their mission. On one of these trips, I had the opportunity to meet with the men and women of Fort Bliss's 31st Combat Support Hospital (CSH) in Balad, who were hard at work providing medical care to Coalition and Iraqi forces injured in Fallujah. I've also met with Marines from El Paso who were serving under the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force in Fallujah. It was a privilege to see our men and women in action.

To our brave service members, I wish you a safe holiday and a swift return home. We are grateful for your sacrifice and your service. To our military families, please know that you have my utmost respect, appreciation, and support. You are all in my thoughts and prayers this holiday season and always.

Scholarship

From Page 1

www.questbridge.org. Look at the application process and make the time to work on your application if you decide to pursue it. It's very easy to procrastinate. Lots of applicants didn't get the applications in on time so they lost the chance to participate," explained Martinez. "In addition, take the SAT Subject Tests by October of your senior year."

As Claremont-McKenna specializes in politics, there are numerous opportunities for internships, which excites Martinez.

"They have a semester-long internship program in Washington, D.C. which I plan to look into once I have a least a year there as a student," Martinez said. "The college is very well known in the political arena and the many programs it offers will definitely prepare me for political work. If I decide to go through a different route, a degree from Claremont-McKenna can almost guarantee entrance into competitive graduate schools."

Martinez is also excited about meeting new people from all over the country.

"Going on my college trips definitely made me realize that we are very secluded in El Paso," he said. "There's a whole world out there to

discover."

Martinez also admits that he loves the idea of moving away from El Paso.

"I guess I'll miss the food, but then again El Paso food is nothing compared to food deep inside Mexico," he said. "I will definitely miss the weather; it's not so much that I like it, it's just that I'm used to it."

Martinez will enter Claremont-McKenna with 24 hours completed of dual credit classes. He's also hopeful of earning Advanced Placement credit hours in Spanish.

When asked how well he thought he would be prepared academically, Martinez said, "I'm not entirely sure about what to expect but I'm sure that I'll struggle during at least the first semester while I get used to the college schedule."

Martinez will also juggle some form of work study hours, but will not have to work more than six hours weekly, as that money will go toward his personal expenses. In addition, he will have the added challenge of driving in California as his parents are planning to buy him a car. That car will come in handy if he decides to drive home at Christmas. Driving time is 12 hours.

"I still will return to El Paso during the holidays, especially during Christmas," said Martinez. "I'll also have to work during the summers, so I'll probably come back then as well."

Briefs

From Page 1

Oregon from Wyoming to Main St. in El Paso was completed and is open to the public. The project forms part of the Central Business District phase III (CBD III) City initiative addressing the major reconstruction of street and drainage in streets in the downtown area. No additional phases will begin prior to the holidays. The scope of work completed consisted of the removal and replacement of existing asphalt pavement, sidewalks, driveways and existing traffic signals and street lighting. The improvement project also upgraded all existing water and sanitary sewer lines. The public is also advised that some additional access will become available to traffic next week on the construction project on Santa Fe from Paisano to the extension onto the Border Highway to help alleviate high traffic volumes during the upcoming holidays. Construction on this phase will continue with expected completion in January.

■ UTEP student should not wait till it's too late. Sign up now for spring 2007 at UTEP. Classes begin Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2007. Registration and the add/drop pe-

riod for all classifications is open now through Dec. 21 and Dec. 27-Jan. 5. Late registration will be Jan. 11-12 and Jan. 16-19. New and returning students can take advantage of touch-tone registration at 915/545-1145 and Web registration at <https://myutep.edu> anytime Monday through Friday except between 3:30 a.m. and 5 a.m. In-person registration is from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Records Department in the Academic Services Building. For more information, call the Registrar's Office at 915/747-5550 or visit www.utep.edu/register/calendar.htm. Students still have time to apply for federal and state financial aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Students who complete the FAFSA will be automatically evaluated for eligibility in the UTEP Success Plan and UTEP Promise. The UTEP Success Plan creates custom financial aid packages based on student need. The UTEP Promise covers all tuition and fees for first-time freshmen with family incomes of \$25,000 or less and doesn't require repayment. Students are encouraged to participate in the Guaranteed Tuition plan, which helps students lock in a tuition rate and mandatory fees for up to four years. Emergency tuition and book loans and installment plans are also available. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid

at 915/747-5204 or visit www.utep.edu/financialaid.

■ The U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents at Ft. Hancock made the single largest seizure of marijuana in the El Paso Sector — 1,003 pounds valued at \$802,728 — after a stolen vehicle was identified and agents attempted to conduct a traffic stop. The driver fled into Tornillo, then onto a dirt road, where he abandoned the vehicle and fled on foot. He was subsequently arrested. The Ford pickup, with New Mexico plates, had been stolen in Albuquerque.

■ The UTEP campus will be closed Dec. 25 and 26 to allow faculty and staff to observe the holiday season. Some departments will operate with a limited staff on Dec. 27-Jan. 2 for university business. The campus will resume regular business hours on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2007. During the month of December, the UTEP Union buildings will be on a varied schedule. Union East and West will be open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 11-22 and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 29 and Jan. 2. Both buildings will be closed Dec. 17, 23-26, 30-31 and Jan. 1. The Union East will also be closed Dec. 27-28. The buildings will return to normal hours of operation Jan. 3.

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The Night Before Christmas

T'was the night before Christmas,
he lived all alone,
in a one bedroom house
made of plaster and stone.

I had come down the chimney
with presents to give,
and to see just who
in this home did live.

I looked all about,
a strange sight I did see,
no tinsel, no presents
not even a tree.

No stocking by mantle,
just boots filled with sand,
on the wall hung pictures of far distant
lands.

With medals and badges,
awards of all kinds,
a sober thought
came through my mind.

For this house was different
it was dark and dreary,
I found the home of a soldier,
once I could see clearly.

The Soldier lay sleeping,
silent, alone,
curled up on the floor
in this one bedroom home.

The face was so gentle,
the room in such disorder,
not how I pictured a United States soldier.

Was this the hero
of whom I'd just read?
Curled up on a poncho,
the floor for a bed?

I realized the families
that I saw this night,
owed their lives to these soldiers
who were willing to fight.

Soon 'round the world,
the children would play,
and grownups would celebrate
a bright Christmas day.

They all enjoyed freedom
each month of the year,
because of the soldiers
like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder
how many lay alone,
on a cold Christmas Eve
in a land far from home.

The very thought
brought a tear to my eye.
I dropped to my knees
and started to cry.

The soldier awakened
and I heard a rough voice,
"Santa don't cry,
this life is my choice,

I fight for freedom
I don't ask for more,
my life is my God,
my country, my Corps."

The soldier rolled over
and drifted to sleep.
I couldn't control it
I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours,
so silent and still
and we both shivered
from the cold night's chill.

I didn't want to leave
on that cold, dark night,
this guardian of honor
so willing to fight

Then the soldier rolled over
with a voice soft and pure
whispered, "Carry on Santa
it's Christmas Day, and all is secure."

One look at my watch,
and I knew he was right.
Merry Christmas, my friend,
and to all a good night.

*This poem was written by a U.S. Marine,
stationed in Okinawa, Japan.*

A Congressman's Simple Holiday Prayer

*I have so much for which to be grateful. Please let me take this moment
to thank you and share my Holiday Prayer*

*Dear Lord,
Thank you for all that is in my heart. Let the families in our community
find peace and joy that this season brings.*

*Keep in our hearts the strength and devotion of our troops,
watch over them as they protect us and our families.*

*Help me remain grateful for all your blessings, and guide me as I make
important decisions that will effect so many lives.*

*Lord keep close the members of our community,
may we take care and respect each other.
May the love we share for one another spread to
everyone we meet in the upcoming year.*

*God bless us all.
Amen.*

- Congressman Silvestre Reyes

Authorized by Silvestre Reyes for U.S. Congress, Ron Pate, Treasurer,
1011 Montana Ave, El Paso, Texas 79902

Horizon code enforcement will begin issuing citations after Jan. 1

HORIZON CITY — Horizon residents have had a seven month grace period to comply with city codes regulating residential property, according to Horizon City's Code Enforcement Officer April Garcia.

Garcia started her job in the spring of this year by talking to property owners and issuing warnings.

However, enforcement will be stepped up as the police department will begin issuing actual citations for continued ordinance violations.

Horizon Police Chief Antonio Aguilar said, "Once the Code Enforcement Officer or other police officers issue an official (warning) of the violation, compliance is required within 72 hours for some violations such as trash and weeds or 15 days for abandoned or dilapidated vehicles.

"We encourage all Horizon residents to voluntarily comply with these ordinances. However, if people refuse to comply or cooperate, then we will take alternative measures such as issuing citations, summons to court or removing abandoned or dilapidated vehicles through impoundment if necessary," he said.

The neighborhood sweeps will focus on city ordinance violations such as:

- Noxious weeds and other rank vegetation
- Accumulation of rubbish, trash,

refuse, junk and abandoned materials such as tires, metals or lumber.

- Any condition which provides harbor for rats, mice, snakes, spiders and other vermin.

- Any building or other structure which is in such a dilapidated condition that it is unfit for human habitation, or kept in such an unsanitary condition that it is a menace to the health of people residing in the vicinity, or presents a fire hazard.

- Motor vehicles which are abandoned or dilapidated and boats, RVs, trailers, etc. with expired registration or safety inspection stickers.

- Motor vehicles, large trucks or recreational RVs parked in neighborhoods on landscape, dirt, or grass in violation of City Ordinance #0093.

- Alarm permits and false alarms in violation of City Ordinance No. 103.

- Loose or unrestrained animals and/or registration violations.

Failure to comply with some city ordinance violations may result in fines of up to \$2,000. Each separate occurrence of a violation or each day that a violation continues constitutes a separate offense.

Citizens having questions concerning any city ordinance violation may call the Horizon City Police Department at 852-1047 or Code Enforcement at 852-1875.

Fugitive seizures at ports of entry outpacing last year

By Roger Maier
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers performing anti-terror inspections at El Paso area border ports of entry seized hundreds of pounds of illegal drugs, detected numerous immigration violations, and apprehended dozens of fugitives from Dec. 11 through Dec. 15.

An area where CBP officers noticed a spike included vehicle export violations. Area CBP officers identified 18 vehicle export violations, generating \$9,000 in penalties. December is one of the busiest months for used vehicle exports to Mexico because many Mexican citizens who return to Mexico for the holiday season export a vehicle during their travels. Individuals wishing to export a vehicle must present their paperwork to CBP at least 72 hours before the vehicle is exported to be in compliance with regulations. Failure to follow regulations can result in a \$500 penalty and a delay in the export process.

CBP officers working at the border ports of entry in El Paso, west Texas and New Mexico apprehended a total of 92 people who were attempting to illegally enter the U.S. at border ports of entry during the past seven days. CBP officers identified 39 intended immigrant cases (people with legitimate entry documents intending to live/work illegally in the U.S.), 13 false claims for U.S. citizenship, 23 impostors (people using a legitimate document not assigned to the person), seven people attempting to enter the U.S. with counterfeit,

fraudulent or altered entry documents, eight people who were in the U.S. without being inspected, and two visa overstay violations.

Area CBP officers made a total of 38 marijuana seizures at area ports. The seizure activity resulted in the confiscation of 3,350 pounds of marijuana.

CBP officers nabbed a total of 39 wanted people while performing anti-terror inspections. A total of 477 fugitives have been nabbed at local border crossings since the beginning of the current fiscal year. The rate of fugitive apprehensions is outpacing the totals from previous years. CBP officers working at El Paso area ports apprehended 1,288 fugitives during fiscal year 2006, the second year in a row CBP officers apprehended in excess of 1,200 wanted people.

Area CBP officers made 12 food and agricultural seizures, resulting in \$2,700 in penalties being assessed. Prohibited items seized included pork bologna, carnitas, oranges, lemons, hawthorn, quince, guavas and hibiscus leaves. The interception of these prohibited items are an important element in preventing the introduction of pests and disease that pose a risk to U.S. agriculture interests and natural resources.

Canutillo High School students create a uniquely American gift

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier

UPPER VALLEY — Using art to create "an American gift," 23 students from Canutillo High School participated in a special workshop held recently in the Jenna Welch/Laura Bush Community Library at El Paso Community College's (EPCC) Northwest campus.

ESL (English as a Second Language) students from CHS English teacher Tom Wilson's class, worked with Professor Juan Angel Salas Perez, an instructor of the art history and art/design, and Lourdes Garcia, reference librarian, at EPCC. The students were taught how to develop their own design in constructing a typical American scene inside a small box.

"The workshop is designed to teach students to construct an original Christmas gift using art and their own ideas. They used the internet for research, but not copy an existing design," said Perez. "By participating in this project



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

THINKING INSIDE THE BOX — Canutillo High School freshmen Victor Basurto gets help from Professor Juan Angel Salas Perez, EPCC Art instructor, on how to design his American scene in a box.

the students also increased their creative abilities," he added.

Student-created designs included a tiny basketball court, mini-interiors of homes, a Nativity scene, a New Year's party scene, a soccer stadium, a ga-

rage, and an Alpine scene.

"It was a great opportunity to collaborate with EPCC in exposing our students to the college learning experience; and provide a positive activity to promote generosity and cooperation," said Wilson.



MEN'S BASKETBALL MINI PACKS

<p>MINI PACK 1: UCF 1.27.07 HOUSTON 2.3.07 TULSA 2.17.07 \$39</p>	<p>MINI PACK 2: MARSHALL 1.10.07 SOUTHERN MISS 1.17.07 SMU 2.21.07 \$42</p>	<p>MINI PACK 3: UAB 1.6.07 UCF 1.27.07 HOUSTON 2.3.07 TULSA 2.17.07 MEMPHIS 3.1.07 \$65</p>
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Mini pack seating available in all Copper Reserved sections while supplies last. To purchase your UTEP Men's Basketball Mini Pack stop by all UTEP Ticket Center locations or call 747-5234.

ONE TEAM - ONE GOAL



**Mattress Closeouts
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HOW TO APPLY FOR IMMIGRATION BENEFITS IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF A CRIME:

Are you a victim of a crime and don't have papers? Are you in a domestic violence or abusive situation? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, you and your children could be eligible for:

- PERMANENT RESIDENCY
- WORK AUTHORIZATION
- GOVERNMENT BENEFITS

Under the VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA), immigrants that are victims of abuse can obtain permanent residency and qualify for other immigration benefits.

For more information on free and confidential legal services, call
the VAWA Project at 1-888-855-8292 or (915) 532-3799.

Sportsmanship takes another beating in I-10 rivalry

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

When I was a very young child my father got me involved in sports. He taught me how to throw a baseball and kick a football and shoot a basketball.

And all those lessons made my childhood that much more enjoyable because I was able to play on many sports teams.

But of all the athletic-related things he taught me, he emphasized two things the most — how to lose and how to win.

He taught me to lose and win with dignity and respect for my opponent. He said if I win, to win with humility and lose with my head held high and make no excuses.

If any of you were at the UTEP-NMSU basketball game at the Don Haskins Center last Saturday night, it's frighteningly apparent that some fathers still have a lot of teaching to do.

The Aggies defeated the Miners in a foul-plagued contest that was hard fought by both teams.

The game was close throughout and both teams had a chance to win it at the end. Unfortunately,

if you are a UTEP fan, the Miners fell short by a 68-62 score.

But as it is in all sports these days, the final score wasn't the story here. The story was the sad behavior displayed by a whole bunch of people.

First of all, I must say that I am one of the biggest Miner fans out there — have been since I could utter the words "Nate Archibald." And when I'm at a game as a fan, I cheer and boo and blame the referee for all my team's ills.

But one thing I will not do is yell out any profanities, disrespect my opponents and the other fans around me or throw anything on the court.

Sitting courtside at every game as I do, I'm fortunate enough to take in all the sights and sounds of the game. And believe me, I didn't like what I heard or saw.

I was thoroughly embarrassed by the countless renditions of "Aggies suck" by many UTEP fans. I could just see many of the youngsters in attendance tugging on their father's shirt tails and asking, "what are the people saying Daddy?"

But none of that compared to what happened at the end of the game.

It's no secret that NMSU coach Reggie Theus is a good coach and is quickly turning around the fortunes of the Aggies' basketball program. But it's also a fact that he never met a TV camera he didn't like.

Theus is a drama king who has made the mistake on many occasions of wearing his heart out on his sleeve. He speaks his mind and acts out his emotions in public.

Immediately after the final buzzer instead of delighting in the victory with his team, Theus chose to get into a verbal confrontation with Miner fans, jawing at them, pointing up at the crowd and at the scoreboard.

Naturally, UTEP fans took this opportunity to yell even louder at Theus, who yelled louder back at them.

It reminded me of an old-fashioned battle near the monkey bars during third-grade recess.

When Theus finally decided to stop yelling at the fans and walk toward the tunnel to his locker room, a piece of debris was thrown from the crowd.

Then, after watching their coach act the way he did, some Aggie players began taunting the crowd with victorious gestures as they walked

off the court.

It was a sorry sight. Watching this great rivalry deteriorate into a Jerry Springer-like circus was another sad commentary for our society and the ever-growing disrespect we have for others and ourselves.

At the postgame press conference Theus said he was not going to take that kind of abuse from the fans anymore. When asked what was said to him, he said things about his mother and grandmother, stuff like that.

Now I don't condone the fans' behavior in any way, shape or form, but Theus has got to realize that fans are the same everywhere. And he's going to face idiots and slobs everywhere he goes. He can't act out every time he gets his feelings hurt.

UTEP's Tony Barbee was asked if heard any of the abusive fans and he was quick to say that he never hears the fans. He said he is always too busy coaching to hear anything the fans yell.

I was deeply ashamed of some of the UTEP fans' behavior at the game, as well as some of the Aggie players and Reggie Theus.

He wasn't at the game, but I'm sure my father would have been ashamed as well.



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

Texas Association of Future Educators Conference held at Canutillo High School

The Texas Association of Future Educators (TAFE) recently held its Fall Regional Meeting at Canutillo High School. Local area high school students interested in teaching as a career participated in workshops developing leadership skills and listened to guest speakers share their experiences in education. The conference's special guest was Alejandro Arguello, TAFE state director. "We were fortunate to have Mr. Arguello visit the Southwest. It was a great opportunity for our

local TAFE members to meet him," said Angelina Bencomo, Canutillo High School TAFE sponsor. Shown from left are CISD Superintendent Dr. Pam Padilla; student participants Yolette Valdez and Valerie Escamilla; CHS TAFE sponsor Bencomo; student participants Griselda Capetillo and JoAnna Lee; State Director of TAFE Arguello; parent Susie Ortiz; and students David Ortiz and Angela Ortiz.

— Contributed by Alfredo Vasquez

Classified Ads

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

As per Article V, Sec. 5.05(a), all owners and lienholders have ten (10) days from this date to reclaim their vehicles at Southwest Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges: VIN - IGCEC4X93Z195090, 2003 Chevy Silverado, black, no license. WTCC-12/14/06

PUBLIC NOTICE

Fabens Independent School District

Invitation to Bid/Respond:
Proposals for the

following project:

New Field House, Multi-Purpose Building

located at Fabens Independent School District, Fabens, Texas. Proposals for this project will be received at the VeMac LP Office located at 2914 E. Yandell Suite #3, El Paso, Texas until:

2:00 p.m. (local MST time) January 11, 2007

Bid documents may be secured from VeMac LP Office located at 2914 E. Yandell Suite #3, El Paso, Texas after:

December 27, 2006

A refundable deposit of Two Hundred Fifty dollars (\$250.00) per set of

documents is required. Plans are also available on the Construction Manager virtual plan room.

Contact Garnett Hall or Frank Gallardo at VeMac LP located at 2914 E. Yandell Suite #3, El Paso, Texas, (915) 566-1911.

WTCC: 12-14-06 and 12-21-06

The City of Socorro

Invitations for Bids

The City of Socorro, Texas is recipient of a HOME Investment Partnership grant contract number 1000484. The City of Socorro, Texas will receive sealed bids for residential rehabilitation for two (2) residences until 10:00 a.m. (local time) on January 12, 2006, at the City Administration Building in Socorro, Texas, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas, 79927. All submittals must be sealed and received in the office of the City Clerk. Bid packets are available in the Administration Building as of Dec. 21, 2006 from 8:00

a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays). The envelope containing the bid submittal should be plainly marked in the lower left corner: "HOME REHABILITATION BID." Be sure to clearly mark your company name and return address on the envelope. There is a \$50.00 fee per package. Fee needs to be paid in cash and/or money order. The City of Socorro reserves the right to award the best bidder, and not necessarily the lowest bid.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud on January 12, 2006 at the City Administration Building located on 124 S. Horizon Blvd. at 2:00 p.m. (local time).

The Contractor needs to be registered in the City of Socorro, in the State of Texas, and needs to be insured and bonded. In addition, the Contractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The City of

Socorro, Texas reserves the right to reject any or all Bids or to waive any informality in the bidding. The City of Socorro, Texas is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

Gina Rodriguez
City Clerk

WTCC: 12-21-06

COUNSELING SERVICES

DAMIAN 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. 12/21

PETS

CANARY FOR SALE - Strong singer, \$100 (includes large cage). 593-9370.

FINANCE

IMMEDIATE CASH NOW! Small monthly payments, private investor will buy your note for a

lump sum of cash!
852-1465 or go to IGANDASSOCIATES.COM.
• Commercial
• Real Estate
• Business

FOSTER CARE

24-hour care in Horizon, Fabens and Clint area. Beautiful foster home, excellent care, references. 851-3422 or 526-4815.

STORAGE

HORIZON SELF STORAGE
• Small, Medium & Large Units
• Yard Space
418 S. Kenazo
852-9371

SELF-HELP

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

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

SERVICES

"Windshield

Ding — Gimme a Ring! JIFFY GLASS REPAIR
Windshield Repair Specialists
By appt. at your home or office:
R.V. Dick

Harshberger
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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
15344 Werling Ct.
Horizon City, TX 79928

Deadline: Mondays

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



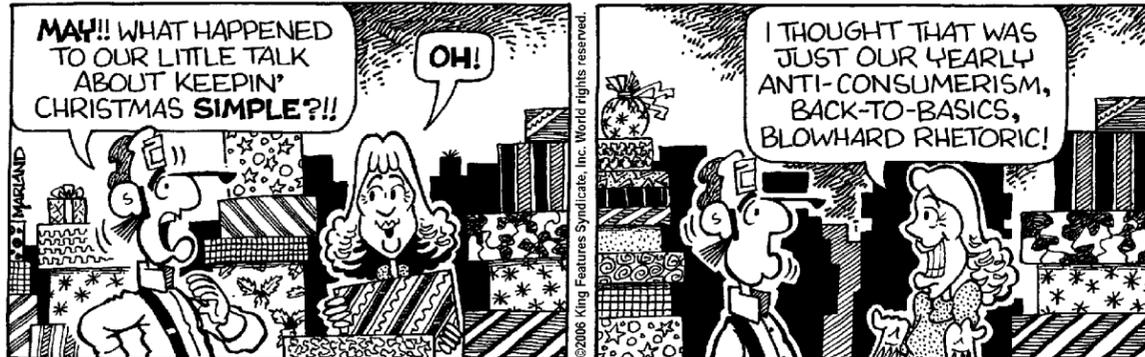
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Forget about time travel

By Don Flood

I saw a review of the new Denzel Washington movie "Déjà Vu" that said, "To stop a bombing, an ATF agent travels back in time, but he doesn't count on the complications."

Doesn't count on the complications? Please, Denzel, you must be smarter than that.

I can't count the number of movies and TV shows where the main characters travel back in time, and there are *always* complications.

Here's how it works. You're offered a trip back in time to fix something that seems simple — let's say you embarrassed yourself by spilling salad dressing on your shirt yesterday — and you think, "Yeah, what could be the harm? I won't make a fool of myself, and then everything after that will be fine."

Nope. Never works that way. What happens is that something monstrously horrible happens to the whole space-time continuum, and next thing I know, my cable's out.

I'm tired of this and may have to take retaliatory action the next time this happens, even if it means going back in time myself.

I mention this now because as everybody knows from the movies the holidays are the peak season for time travel.

Not that all the holiday news is bad. For instance, we can all be grateful that Target has killed off the Fat Man.

That's right, this year Target ads will become Santa-free zones. But other advertising developments are less positive.

In one ad, two young men smile and exchange high-fives.

Since this takes place in a mall, generally a place where no sports are being played, there doesn't appear to be an adequate male rea-

son for a high-five.

Nor can anyone be seen doing something obviously hilarious, such as snorting milk out his nose, which would be another acceptable occasion for a high-five.

No, the reason appears to be: They are both carrying bags from a certain jewelry store.

They don't talk or even exchange greetings — beyond the high-five — so it's not even certain they know each other.

This is not normal male behavior. Men do not blow their paycheck on useless baubles and then exchange high-fives with complete strangers. Or with friends.

Another disturbing ad shows money as not only the root of all evil; it also slows down the economy — which is really bad.

The ad shows people buying food and drinks at a coffee shop, with everybody paying with plastic.

Things are going swell until some joker pays for his lunch using real money, if you can imagine.

What happens next is wholly predictable. People bump into each other; service stops cold. Indeed, one gets the impression that the entire U.S. economy has come to a dead halt.

Don't let this happen to you. If you have extra cash lying around you must get rid of it.

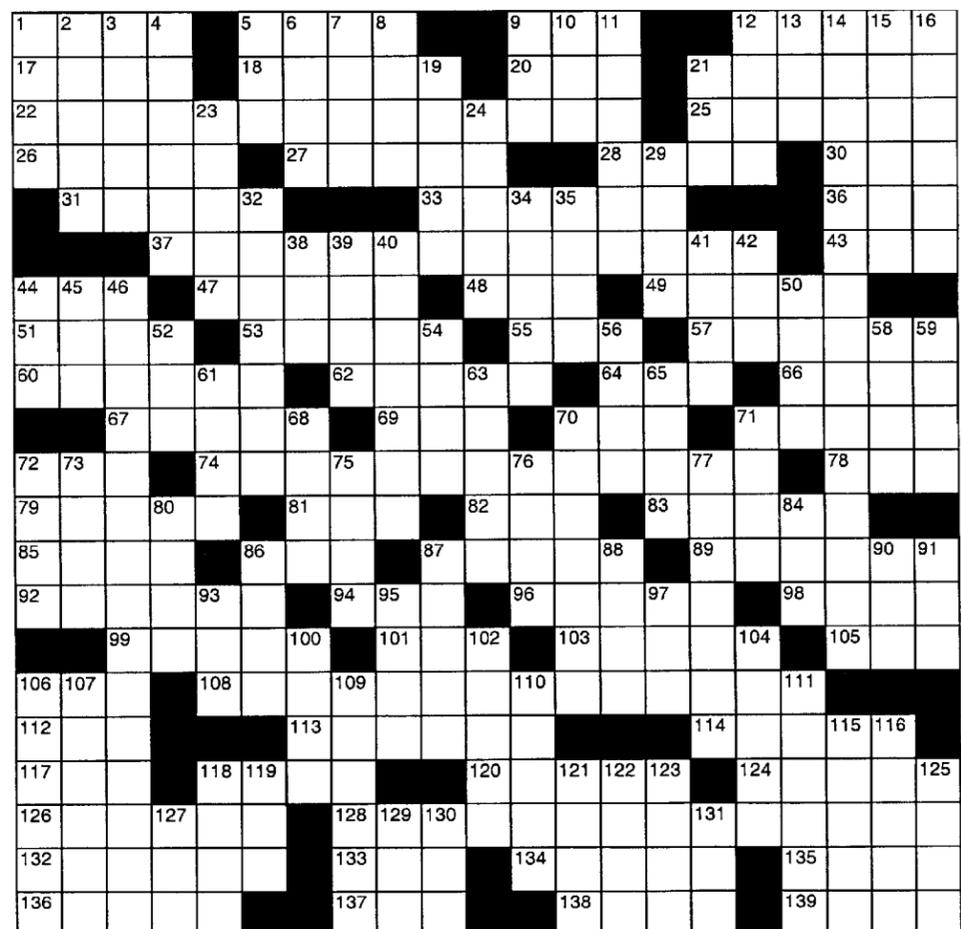
To help solve the problem, I recently launched the EZ-GO Money Disposal Service. Send your evil money to me, and I will see that is disposed of in a manner not harmful to the U.S. economy.

And if you really want to help, you can go back in time and send me some of that money you shouldn't have wasted.

(c) 2006 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Super Crossword

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| HUMORISTS | 69 Explosive initials | actress? | 29 Graceland name | 88 Read quickly |
| ACROSS | 70 Dam org. | 132 Barrymore or | 32 Chest part | 90 Tax shelter |
| 1 Pollutant | 71 Defer | Richie | 34 Like chiffon | 91 Some |
| 5 Next in line | 72 Hog heaven? | 133 Altar answer | 35 Notion | 93 German spa |
| 9 Viola part | 74 Humorous pirate? | 134 Do a mechanic's | 38 San Diego | 95 Tun throwaways |
| 12 Irish playwright | 78 Antiquity, | job | attraction | 97 Bossy's chew |
| 17 Strong - ox | archaically | 135 "Mila 18" author | 39 Part of A.D. | 100 Workday start |
| 18 Extremely hot | 79 Bug-to-be | 136 Actress Dominique | 40 Abominable | 102 Routine |
| 20 Prospector's prize | 81 Trigger-happy | 137 Savor the | 41 Plumbing problem | 104 English course? |
| 21 Breakfast food | guy? | sauerbraten | 42 Oaf | 106 Bobbins |
| 22 Humorous TV | 82 Payable | 138 Approximately | 44 Singer Davis | 107 Asian peninsula |
| host? | 83 Rope material | 139 Hammer part | 45 From - Z | 109 Dog star? |
| 25 Shadowy site? | 85 - vera | | 46 Humorous | 110 Roberts or Tucker |
| 26 Half a joint | 86 Shady character? | DOWN | jazzman? | 111 Keep secret |
| 27 Math relationship | 87 Rock's Tears for - | 1 Fiction's antithesis | 50 Composer Nino | 115 Yonder |
| 28 Without | 89 A Muse | 2 9 Down character | 52 Actress Zetterling | 116 A la King? |
| 30 "- Blue?" | 92 Turned soft | 3 - Loa | 54 Foch or Simone | 118 Sailing |
| (29 song) | 94 Architect's add-on | 4 Repeat | 56 Sitarist Shankar | 119 Salon supply |
| 31 Not as common | 96 Center of | performance | 58 "- Paul" ('59 hit) | 121 Christiania, today |
| 33 More promising | attraction | 5 Producer Prince | 59 Enraged | 122 Tend the sauce |
| 36 Fled | 98 It holds plenty! | 6 Celebrity | 61 - vu | 123 Units of work |
| 37 Humorous | 99 Miller's salesman | hairstylist Jose | 63 Practice piece | 125 Org. |
| Senator? | 101 - de Cologne | 7 Hawkeye State | 65 "Phooey!" | 127 Sturm - Drang |
| 43 - de France | 103 Hot spot? | 8 Crowdburst? | 68 Scruggs or Butz | 129 - Bell Wells |
| 44 Mil. rank | 105 Coral reef | 9 Eerie author | 70 Actress Saldana | 130 Destiny |
| 47 Steakhouse order | 106 "I Am -" (2001 film) | 10 Bungle | 71 TV host John | 131 Kids' card game |
| 48 Observe | 108 Humorous | 11 Old Faithful, e.g. | 72 Bridge term | |
| 49 Medical word form | Pilgrim? | 12 Certain steeds | 73 Biggest part of a | |
| 51 Mighty mite | 112 In favor of | 13 Before, to Byron | fish? | |
| 53 Film barbarian | 113 New Hampshire | 14 Humorous poet? | 75 Alaskan port | |
| 55 Where to find an | city | 15 Gorilla or | 76 Magellan | |
| incus | 114 Intense | groundhog | discovery | |
| 57 Tropical rodent | 117 Item in a lock | 16 Novelist Gordimer | 77 Fairy queen | |
| 60 Pina - | 118 Seasons firewood | 19 Chateau valley | 80 Apt anagram of | |
| 62 Willow tree | 120 Win by - | 21 Marsh | "vote" | |
| 64 Genesis vessel | 124 Milo of "Ulysses" | 23 Prepared to | 84 Contented sigh | |
| 66 Russian ruler | 126 Dull | propose | 86 Gouda alternative | |
| 67 Feudal figure | 128 Humorous | 24 Plunders | 87 Instant | |



Answer Page 6

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Medicare open enrollment for 2007 ends Dec. 31

Medicare's open enrollment period for prescription drug coverage in 2007 runs through December 31. During this period, all eligible beneficiaries may choose to enroll for the first time, choose a new plan or stay in the plan they already have. If you

or someone you know is on Medicare and has limited income and resources, it is important to remember that extra help is still available with cost of plan premiums, co-payments and deductibles.

You may qualify for this extra

help if your income is below \$14,700 a year as a single person or below \$19,800 a year if you're married and living with your spouse. Your income can be higher if you support other family members who live with you or have earnings from work. Keep in mind, new income limits will be determined in early 2007. For 2006, your total resources must be less than \$10,000 if you are single or \$20,000 if you are married and living with your spouse. Resources include such things as bank accounts, stocks and bonds, but do

not include your house and car. Resources can be slightly higher (an additional \$1,500 per person) if you will use some of your money for burial expenses. In 2007, the resources limit will increase to \$10,210 for an individual and \$20,410 for a married couple living together.

If you think that you might qualify for the extra help, you can complete an on-line application at www.socialsecurity.gov or call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) and a representative will assist you in filing an application over

the phone. You can also visit your local Social Security office. For more information about the prescription drug program itself, you can go to www.medicare.gov, where decision-making tools such as the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder are available, or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

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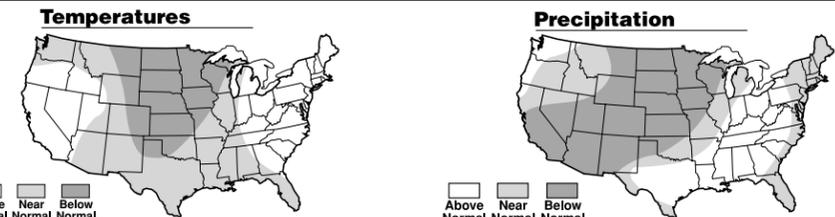
7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX

AccuWeather.com®

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Plenty of sunshine	Clear	Partly sunny	Snow possible in the a.m.	Sunshine and cold	Mostly sunny	Sunny	Mostly sunny
54°	29°	58° 33°	49° 32°	51° 30°	50° 28°	55° 32°	54° 27°
RealFeel 55°	RealFeel 28°	RealFeel 58° 22°	RealFeel 42° 25°	RealFeel 50° 27°	RealFeel 52° 24°	RealFeel 60° 35°	RealFeel 59° 26°

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	New	First
Thu.	7:01 a.m.	5:06 p.m.	Thu.	8:18 a.m.	6:12 p.m.		
Fri.	7:02 a.m.	5:06 p.m.	Fri.	9:07 a.m.	7:20 p.m.	12/20	12/27
Sat.	7:02 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	Sat.	9:49 a.m.	8:29 p.m.	Full	Last
Sun.	7:03 a.m.	5:07 p.m.	Sun.	10:25 a.m.	9:36 p.m.		
Mon.	7:03 a.m.	5:08 p.m.	Mon.	10:57 a.m.	10:43 p.m.	1/3	1/11
Tues.	7:04 a.m.	5:09 p.m.	Tues.	11:27 a.m.	11:48 p.m.		
Wed.	7:04 a.m.	5:09 p.m.	Wed.	11:57 a.m.	none		

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	62	34	s	56	34	s	46	31	r	46	28	c
Albuquerque, NM	41	22	pc	44	26	sf	43	27	c	45	25	pc
Amarillo, TX	40	24	s	45	23	s	36	20	sn	40	19	c
Austin, TX	68	41	pc	59	38	pc	55	39	r	53	34	c
Brownsville, TX	71	59	t	72	61	c	70	50	r	62	41	c
Dodge City, KS	36	19	sf	45	18	pc	32	15	pc	37	14	pc
Jackson, MS	67	51	t	57	40	t	58	39	pc	53	38	sh
Laredo, TX	65	52	pc	68	49	pc	55	43	r	54	44	c
Little Rock, AR	64	40	t	56	35	pc	50	35	pc	47	32	sh
Lubbock, TX	50	28	s	51	27	s	40	22	sn	44	22	c
Memphis, TN	66	47	t	56	37	pc	53	36	pc	50	36	r
Midland, TX	55	31	s	54	32	s	43	28	sn	45	28	pc
Pueblo, CO	40	11	c	43	12	pc	37	8	pc	39	11	c
Roswell, NM	52	25	s	50	27	pc	41	27	sn	48	26	pc
St. Louis, MO	60	40	r	50	33	pc	45	28	pc	44	28	s
San Antonio, TX	67	46	pc	62	43	pc	57	38	r	51	35	c
Texarkana, AR	64	42	pc	56	37	s	54	36	pc	50	35	sh
Waco, TX	65	38	pc	59	37	s	51	39	c	50	34	c
Wichita, KS	43	26	c	43	26	s	36	22	pc	39	20	pc

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	61	51	c	61	51	t	61	48	c	56	45	r
Boston	48	30	s	44	32	c	42	37	r	47	33	pc
Chicago	46	38	r	42	32	c	39	25	pc	37	24	pc
Denver	36	16	c	41	16	c	35	16	pc	36	17	c
Detroit	44	37	r	48	37	c	40	29	c	33	26	pc
Houston	67	48	c	64	42	pc	61	44	c	56	38	c
Indianapolis	53	45	r	50	35	c	46	30	pc	40	27	s
Kansas City	46	30	c	42	27	pc	40	22	s	44	21	pc
Los Angeles	65	47	pc	67	45	s	68	46	s	70	48	s
Miami	80	70	c	81	70	c	83	71	t	80	68	c
Minneapolis	38	26	sn	32	20	sf	31	13	pc	31	16	pc
New Orleans	74	57	t	64	49	t	63	48	c	57	45	t
New York City	54	37	s	46	41	r	46	41	r	52	39	s
Omaha	39	27	sn	36	23	pc	34	14	s	36	14	s
Phoenix	62	40	s	61	43	pc	63	42	pc	67	43	s
San Francisco	56	46	r	56	43	s	55	45	c	57	47	pc
Seattle	45	34	sh	45	36	c	46	37	r	49	39	r
Washington	56	39	s	49	43	r	56	40	r	53	38	s

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