



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Juveniles beware

The consequences teenagers face when they agree to become "drug mules" and try to smuggle drugs from Mexico through the International Ports of Entry can be severe. For several years now, drug dealers have recruited teenagers from bars and night clubs in Ciudad Juarez, offering them hundreds of dollars to drive cars loaded with drugs across the border. The dealers falsely claim that nothing will happen to them if they are caught because they are "underage." The recruiting becomes particularly aggressive during spring break. More El Paso teens than usual take advantage of the off-school period to party in Juarez during the break. "We need El Paso families to be aware that teens that get caught smuggling drugs might have to spend months in Juvenile Detention Facilities, and in some cases, they can be sentenced to serve several years in an adult prison," said El Paso County Attorney José R. Rodríguez.

### Distinguished performance

Frank Macias Elementary in the Clint Independent School District is being recognized by the division of NCLB Program Coordination of the Texas Education Agency as a Distinguished Performance School. "The honor that has been bestowed to Frank Macias Elementary comes as the exclamation point to all the hard work and dedication put forth for the children, parents, and community around Frank Macias Elementary," says Emi Gonzalez, Frank Macias Elementary Principal. This recognition for outstanding academic performance goes to Title 1, Part A schools who meet the following criteria: Title 1, Part A Campus 2004-2005, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007; 40% or more low-income in 2006-2007; Met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2005 and 2006; Spring 2006 Exemplary; Spring 2004 and 2005 Exemplary or Recognized. Frank Macias Elementary, which has an enrollment of 1,040 students, is one of only two Distinguished Performance Schools in Region 19 and of 129 in the state.

### Water hazard

Due to spring runoff and early release from dams in New Mexico, the water levels in the American Canal are dangerously high and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection is issuing warnings to anyone who attempts to cross the waterways that parallel the international boundary. On Sunday, a migrant was pulled under and swept away by the undertow after entering the canal waters and was found alive an hour later clinging to a drainage tube. The swift, high currents and other dynamics are sufficient to pose a danger even to the best swimmers. CBP agents have rescued 27 migrants in life-threatening conditions

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Many people drive their car as if they were rehearsing for an accident.

— Quips & Quotes

## Canutillo High School senior qualifies for state computer exam

By Kim Guzman  
Special to the Courier

UPPER VALLEY — Victor Solis, Canutillo High School senior, qualified to take the State Computer Technician Exam by placing third in Computer Maintenance, one of over 70 contests held recently during the Texas SkillsUSA competition at Western Technical College. More than 500 students from the surrounding area school districts participated in the Regional contests.

The computer maintenance event consisted of a 50 question exam, similar to the A+ certification exam, and a timed computer assembly test. Twenty five students from local area high schools competed in this event.

Texas SkillsUSA is a non-profit youth organization that facilitates trade and industry education and enhances public school curricula. SkillsUSA prepares students for employment by introducing them to corporate quality culture and emphasizes respect for the dignity of work, high standards in trade ethics, superior workmanship, quality and safety.

"This is the third year we have participated in the competition, and this is the first year one of our students has won a medal and has advanced to state competition," said Jessica Arellano, CHS



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

**COMPUTER TECH — Victor Solis, senior at Canutillo High School, dismantles a computer as part of a class activity.**

trades and industry teacher. The state meet is scheduled for March 28, in Corpus Christi.

## Red Sands Elementary gets smart about Internet safety

By Laura Cade  
Special to the Courier

Keeping students safe is always a priority at the Clint ISD's Red Sands Elementary and that includes keeping students safe while they are on the Internet. Officers Gerry Cenicerros and Efrén Pulido from Socorro ISD Police Services were invited to the campus to educate all third, fourth and fifth grade students on how to be safe while on the Internet using a program called NetSmartz Workshop.

During the sessions, students were advised by the NetSmartz program to never meet in person with anyone you first met on line; tell an adult you trust if you are scared, uncomfortable or confused; and ask parents before sharing any personal information.

Officers Pulido and Cenicerros also advised students against visiting sites like My Space. "Never give personal information. There is no way to tell who you are talking to," says Officer Cenicerros.



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

**DANGEROUS WAVES — Officer Gerry Cenicerros, left, and Officer Efrén Pulido spoke with students from Red Sands Elementary about Internet safety.**

## San Elizario High School senior from Class of '89 finally receives diploma

By Cynthia P. Marentes  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Yvette Garcia was not unlike many parents. She worked hard devoting most of her time to raising three children. Yet there was something missing in her life, something Yvette had put aside for many years, at least since 1989. She had never received her high school diploma.

One day Yvette was visiting San Elizario High School to attend to some paperwork related to one of her daughters. She was unprepared for what happened next — she was presented with her high school diploma.

With the help and encouragement of a friend, Yvette had registered to take the math portion of the TAAS test which was the only element she needed to fulfill in order to receive her diploma. Soon after testing, however, she received a letter that notified her that she still needed to pass the test because she was recorded as being absent on the test day. Disappointed and a little unsure of herself, Yvette did not pursue the matter further.

The journey that finally lead Yvette to receiving her diploma began back in 1989. At that time Yvette was trying to finish school and adjust to being a mom to daughter Valerie who was just six months old. Although she was allowed to walk at the graduation ceremony, Yvette was not given her high school diploma. She needed to return the following summer and pass the mandated TAAS test but she didn't go back. Later Yvette accompanied a friend to El Paso Community College and registered for classes, but again she never went back. She was too embarrassed to tell anyone at the college that she did not have her diploma.

Instead, Yvette concentrated on caring for Valerie and then her family grew with the arrival of two more children, Stephanie and Adrian. Soon she began working, juggling still more responsibilities when she became a single mom. Achieving her high school diploma at that time was not a priority, and time passed.

On that fateful day in January of this year when Yvette visited San Elizario High School, Ricardo Garza, Head Counselor at the high school, had organized an impromptu celebration for her. Garza and other school administrators brought in Yvette's daughters, Valerie and Stephanie, to the office to hear the happy news. "They saw me there and asked if they were in trouble. I showed them the diploma and they cried and told me they were so happy for me," she said. "I wanted to prove to my kids that I could do it. That I finished what I needed to," added Garcia.

Yvette's children are also excelling, both Valerie and Stephanie are members of the varsity volleyball at San Elizario High School. Valerie will soon be attending college, possibly in Seattle. While Yvette's youngest, Adrian, is a student at Campestre Elementary.

But Yvette's story does not end here. She continues to pursue other goals like attending a computer literacy class through the San

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## Village of Vinton PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:30 p.m. during the Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2007 at Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed item(s):

Consider and take action on request for Special Permit to allow for a multiple family dwelling on tract 3-B-29-A, W.F. Hagan Survey No. 146, Abstract 2656, Village of Vinton, El Paso County, Texas (also know as 213 Danny Boy Lane).

Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Jessica Garza, Village Clerk at the City Hall. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall at (915) 886-5104 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

*Jessica Garza  
Village Clerk*

WTCC: 03/15/07

## Village of Vinton PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:30 p.m. during the Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2007 at Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear, discuss and testify regarding the following:

1) The submission of the 2003 application to the United States Department of Agriculture for the construction of a city-wide water system. The Village encourages citizens to participate and to make their views known at this public hearing.

Citizens unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to Jessica Garza, Village Clerk at the City Hall. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall at (915) 886-5104 to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City Hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

*Jessica Garza  
Village Clerk*

WTCC: 03/15/07



## One perspective

By Francis Shrum

# Explosive situations

Humans love things that go boom, make loud noises and light up the sky. Sometimes they aren't fireworks.

I was talking to a friend who recently came home from Iraq. He said he had conversations with young kids from that war torn country in which the children pointed out names and pictures of men who had become suicide bombers in an attempt to kill as many people as possible that they consider their enemies.

It is something the children aspire to do themselves one day.

The history, intricacy and even the artistry involved in the way humans design and utilize explosive weapons is a source of morbid fascination, you know, a little like staring at a deadly viper in a zoo knowing you are safely separated by several layers of unbreakable glass.

Unfortunately, weapons of this nature, like snakes of the most venomous kind in the wild, aren't always so mercifully separated from vulnerable human flesh.

The death and devastation that follows the mining of a field by warring factions is a global shame. These machinations of destruction don't evaporate with the cessation of armed conflict. Instead, they lie dormant but deadly long after the soldiers are gone, only to be activated by the most innocent of passers-by.

Whatever my opinion may have been of the personal drama that surrounded the late Diana, Duchess of

Wales, I admired her deeply for choosing the global problem of landmines as her cause to champion. As a result of her astounding popularity, she was able to focus a glaring spotlight on the problem by walking in the fields herself.

That was no small feat.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the incidents of landmine injuries doubled between 1980 and 1997 and an estimated 2,000 people — mostly civilian men, women and children — fall victim every month to landmines left behind in the wake of armed conflict. An estimated 800 will die of their injuries while the rest will usually suffer amputation of at least one limb.

An increasing number of those injured are public health workers.

Virtually no country that has suffered the scourge of war on their homeland soil has escaped the landmine problem. Somalia, Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia and the Congo are all poster nations for the more than 71 countries that suffer this plague.

While we would like to believe our world is becoming more civilized, the continued use of landmines dispels that hope — an estimated five million new landmines are sown every year in the fields of war.

As a child playing in the deserts of Southern New Mexico on what was once the practice bombing range for the U.S. military during WWII, it was common to come across spent cas-

ings, even strips of machine gun rounds.

Still, nothing I've ever experienced brought me as up-close-and-personal to unexploded ordinance as that lady in Rome last month who found a WWII vintage hand grenade nestled comfortably in her bag of potatoes. ANSA news agency said officials believe the grenade was picked and packaged with potatoes from a field in France — but it was anything but a dud. It made a very convincing boom when officials exploded it in a nearby park.

Then there were those two kids playing in the woods near their home in South Carolina a few weeks ago when they ran across a small, inactive military practice bomb and dragged it home to show mom. The AP says no military agency has claimed the little lost ordinance.

They say you need nerves of steel to handle explosives. A little historical jaunt through some Texas history on the role that dynamite played in establishing the oil fields of West Texas is enough to make your hair stand on end — many of those good old boys died young from unnatural causes.

The worst part about things that go boom these days is that those prepared to utilize them are equally prepared to make it a one-time event that will end their own lives. As astonishing as the Japanese kamikaze fighter pilots were during WWII, they pale in comparison to the threat the world faces today. A suicide bomber's reasoning flies in the face of every natural urge humans have for self preservation.

Even the young people driving on the street who are sacrificing their hearing to the booming of subwoofer speakers are not literally trying to blow themselves up — no matter how explosive a situation they create with their fellow motorists.

## Safety

From Page 1

Internet. Sexual predators use the Internet to reach out to children and children can also become involved in criminal activity on the Internet. Parents were shown websites such as My Space to see how easy it is for their child to encounter danger. Parents were also shown how to monitor their child's use of the Internet and computer and how to use the Internet to determine if there are sexual predators living near by.

The Clint ISD Department of Technology and Information Services uses special filters to block dangerous and inappropriate Internet web sites through the use of an award winning content subscription software service. The software categorizes inappropriate websites for K-12 education. These sites are blocked to all students and employees.

"It is a constant challenge to properly categorize and block sites that are inappropriate for students from the many of thousands or worldwide sites created daily. Through a combination of content filtering software, computer monitoring, and safe Internet practices, we make every effort to provide a safe educational experience when surfing the World Wide Web," says John McNicol, Director of Technology.

The NetSmartz Workshop is an interactive, educational safety re-

source from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and Boys & Girls Clubs of America for children aged 5 to 17, parents, guard-

ians, educators, and law enforcement. It uses age-appropriate, 3-D activities to teach children how to stay safer on the Internet.



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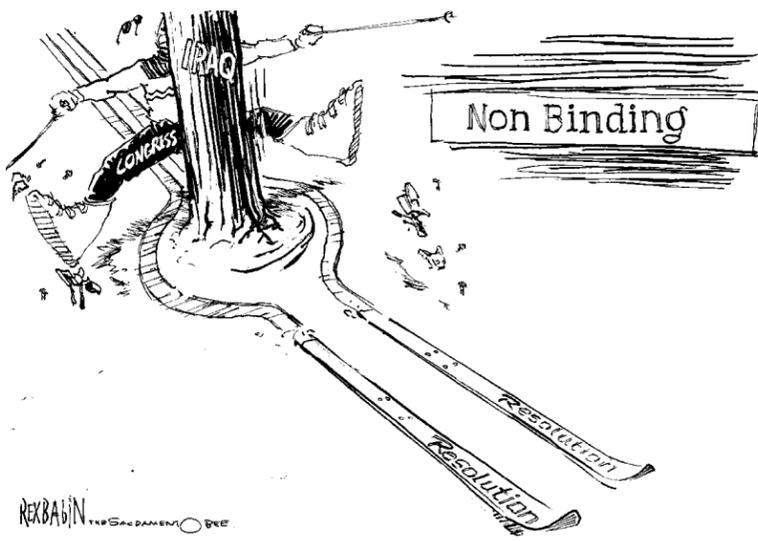
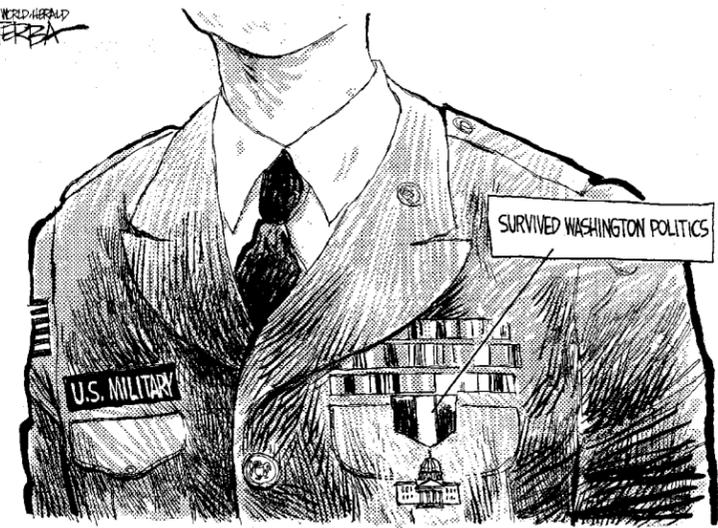
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PAYDAY LENDERS

SMITH WELCH HERALD KOERBA



**Moore Texas** by Roger T. Moore 1850: Gov. Peter Bell declares March 7 a day of celebration honoring Texas Independence hoping to blunt the unabashed partying that had become traditional on March 2.

# Texans at risk for 'rescue loan' scam

By David S. Jones  
Special to the Courier

COLLEGE STATION, Tex. — Convinced that home foreclosures will rise dramatically in the next two years, the chief economist for the Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University warns that a new scam threatens homebuyers desperately looking for a way out of financial stress.

"Predatory lenders now offer what they call 'rescue loans,'" said Dr. Mark Dotzour, "but homebuyers are neither rescued nor do they actually receive loans."

Homebuyers who purchased homes with subprime loans are especially vulnerable, he said. Predatory lenders are targeting subprime borrowers who have some equity built up in a home but who are having difficulty meeting monthly mortgage payments.

Homebuyers with impaired or non-

existent credit histories often turn to subprime loans despite the higher interest that comes with them. According to Dotzour, many are about to discover that their "American dream" has turned into a nightmare.

Here is how the scam works. The homebuyer gets behind on mortgage payments. The predatory lender offers a "loan to get caught up" on the delinquent mortgage payments. In exchange for the rescue, the homeowner signs over the title to the predator, who promises that the homebuyer may remain in the home while paying rent. The predator then sells the house to someone else, and the original homeowner gets an eviction notice.

About a dozen states have passed laws designed to deter rescue loan fraud, but Texas is not one of them.

"The scam is called a loan, but it is not," says Dotzour. "It really is a buy-out with a leaseback."

Dotzour fears the problem is go-

ing to get much worse. As of Oct. 31, some four percent of borrowers who obtained subprime loans in 2006 were 60 days or more behind on payments. He said the delinquency rate is running twice that of a year ago.

"Foreclosures are up 27 percent in the last 12 months," said the noted economist, "but that's still low in my books. I'm betting 2007 U.S. foreclosures will double last year's total."

Subprime mortgage volume has increased fivefold in five years. The Mortgage Bankers Association estimates that \$1.1 trillion to \$1.3 trillion in subprime loans are due to adjust to higher interest rates in 2007.

"Obviously there will be a much higher foreclosure rate in the next five years," said Dotzour, "regardless of whether there is an upswing or downswing in the economy."

David S. Jones is a Senior Editor in the Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University.

# State education group selects SISD Assistant Principal

By Irma Flores  
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Chelaine Marion, Assistant Principal at Robert Rojas Elementary School, was recognized by the Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA) when she was named Assistant Principal of the Year for Region XIX which includes the El Paso, Ysleta, Socorro, Clint, San Elizario, Canutillo, and Fort Hancock school districts.

Marion has been an assistant prin-

icipal since 2003 and has been in the Socorro Independent School District for 10 years including several as a Curriculum Coordinator and Science teacher at Ernesto Serna Dual Language PK-8 School. She is also an instructor at the College of Education at UTEP and El Paso Community College.



Chelaine Marion

"I believe that the principal can't do it alone and that the teachers appreciate administrators who offer themselves as a resource to them," she says. "I love it when teachers come to me to help them plan a science lesson. There is no greater compliment than when a colleague feels that they can come to you for guidance and support."

Marion has worked on improving the connection between parents of At-Risk students and staff by dedi-

cating an instructional aide who assists teachers with small group intensive instruction. She also developed a new plan regarding the school's safety program that could be implemented with ease but would keep students and staff safe. Her program developed a Safety Committee comprised of

teachers, the nurse, the cafeteria manager, the head custodian, counselor and other key campus individuals. The committee has enhanced the school's Emergency Operations Plan which has been used in other schools in the Socorro ISD. In addition, Robert Rojas Elementary has implemented a monitoring system for campus visitors, installing signs directing visitors to the front office and installing speed bumps in the parking lot.

## El Paso holds community meetings on stormwater

EL PASO — Storms of the summer 2006 left significant property damage in El Paso. Now the area must plan for the future.

El Paso City Management Joyce Wilson has proposed creation of a "Stormwater Management Function" under the auspices of the Public Service Board.

Wilson along with Ed Archuleta from El Paso Water Utilities will be presenting the information on the Stormwater management proposal. The community's participation and involvement in this important issue is requested. To view previous presentations on the proposal, please visit the City of El Paso's homepage — News and Notices Section — at [www.elpasotexas.gov](http://www.elpasotexas.gov) and click on "Storm Water Management."

The next three community meetings are scheduled for:

- Thursday, March 22, 5 p.m. at City Hall, 10th Floor Conference Room
- Monday, March 26, 6 p.m. at Sacramento Senior Center, 3134 Jefferson.
- Thursday, April 12, 6:30 p.m. at the Multi-Purpose Center, 9031 Viscount
- Thursday, April 26, 6 p.m. at Luby's Cafeteria, 1010 Chelsea St.

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## Town of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held during a **Regular Planning and Zoning Meeting on Monday, April 2, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.** at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding the following properties:

- 1) Rezoning from, R-2, Residential to C-2 Heavy Commercial. Being a portion of Horizon City Unit 63, Section 41 El Paso County, Texas. Approximately 0.45 acres.
- 2) Rezoning from, M-1 Light Industrial to C-2 Heavy Commercial. Being a portion of Tract 1-A, Section 42, Block 78, Township 3, Texas and Pacific Railroad Surveys, El Paso County, Texas. Approximately 7.65 acres.
- 3) Rezoning from M-1 Light Industrial to C-1 Light Commercial. Being a portion of Tract 2-A, Section 42, Block 78, Township 3, Texas and Pacific Railroad Surveys, El Paso County, Texas. Approximately 22.46 acres.
- 4) Rezoning from C-1 Light Commercial to A-1 Apartments. Being a portion of Abstract 8814, Tracts 1F1 and 1M, W.J. Rand Survey No. 325, El Paso County, Texas. Approximately 6.16 acres.
- 5) Rezoning from R-2 Residential to various zones, as listed below:

**Parcel 1:** Proposed zoning R-9 Single-family Dwelling. Consisting of all of Desert Palms Unit 5 save and except for Lots 22 - 24, Block 22, El Paso County, Texas. Approximately 44.21 acres.

**Parcel 2:** Proposed zoning C-1 Light Commercial. Lots 22 - 24, Block 22, Desert Palms Unit 5, El Paso County, Texas. Approximately 2.02 acres.

**Parcel 3:** Proposed zoning A-1 Apartments. Tract 8-E, Section 43, Block 78, Township 3, Texas and Pacific Railroad Surveys, El Paso County, Texas. Approximately 5.20 acres.

**Parcel 4:** Proposed zoning R-9 Single-family Dwelling. Consisting of all of Desert Palms Unit 3, save and except for Lots 1 - 3, Block 9 and Lots 1 - 3, Block 8, El Paso County, Texas. Approximately 21.33 acres.

**Parcel 5:** Proposed zoning M-1 Light Industrial. Lots 1 - 3, Block 9 and Lots 1 - 3, Block 8, Desert Palms Unit 3, El Paso County, Texas. Approximately 5.52 acres.

**Parcel 6:** Proposed zoning M-1 Light Industrial. All of Darrington Commercial Park, El Paso County, Texas. Approximately 4.25 acres.

**Parcel 7:** Proposed zoning M-1 Light Industrial. Consisting of an unplatted portion of Section 43, Block 78, Township 3, Texas and Pacific Railroad Surveys, El Paso County, Texas, (PID no. X57800034300055). Approximately 0.42 acres.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk at the above address or call 915-852-1046. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; and individuals in need of special assistance for attending the hearing are encouraged to contact the City Clerk at 915-852-1046, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting.

*Fidel Morales*  
Interim Town Clerk

WTCC: 03/15/07

## Briefs

From Page 1

since January and expect those numbers to rise as the weather warms.

### In other news

■ Pepperoni's Pizza & Deli of Horizon City will award \$6,000 in scholarships to Class of 2007 graduating seniors. \$5,000 in scholarships were awarded to ten recipients in 2006. Any graduating senior at Americas High School or Horizon High School, living in the Horizon City area, is welcome to apply. Acceptance at any vocational school, community/junior college or university is required. Applications are available at Pepperoni's Pizza & Deli, 14020 Horizon Blvd, Horizon City, Texas. Deadline for submission is April 30, 2007.

■ Socorro High School Junior Lorena Garcia has been selected to participate in the National Student Leadership Conference on Medicine and Health Care this summer at the University of Maryland.



Lorena Garcia

She will attend specialized workshop and classes designed to develop the skills and traits that define a leader. Professors and college students facilitate the programs with career focused, hands-on activities, simulating a career in the student's area of interest. Trips and tours are also on the agenda. She will spend time with other high-achieving students and return to school with increased potential and newly developed abilities. "Students develop a sense of independence and responsibility," says Dr. Paul M. Lisnek, the NSLC Director of Academics and former Assistant Dean of Loyola University Chicago School of Law. "They leave with a true feeling of accomplishment and confidence in their ability to handle the challenges that lie ahead."

■ The Texas Education Agency (TEA) released recently Canutillo Independent School District 2007 TAKS results for the first administration of the Third Grade and Fifth Grade Reading tests on Feb. 20. According to Alfredo Vasquez, district spokesman, Canutillo ISD's preliminary results are:

- Third Grade Reading Combined (English and Spanish Test Results): Tested - 377; Passed - 331; Percent Passed - 88%; Commended - 28%
  - Fifth Grade Reading Combined (English and Spanish Test Results): Tested - 378; Passed - 321; Percent Passed - 85%; Commended - 30%
- "Overall, we are satisfied with the

progress that the TAKS Reading scores show. We are especially encouraged with the increase in the students' commended rate on the first administration of the test," said Dr. Pam Padilla, CISD superintendent. The commended rate reports the percentage rate of students who had at least 90 percent of their responses correct. "The commended rate is a good indicator, a solid base, to predict a student's continued success," Dr. Padilla added.

■ The Kiwanis Club of Horizon City, El Paso will have a regular meeting on Saturday, March 17 at 8 a.m. at Oz Glaze Senior Center, 13969 Veny Webb. The guest speaker will be Anna Red from the Thomason Trauma Coordinator addressing "At Home Injury Prevention and Safety." The public is invited.

■ For the fourth consecutive year, the Montwood High School NJROTC has qualified to attend the Navy Air Rifle National competition. The Montwood team finished as the top Navy Varsity Precision team in the state of Texas and 12th in the nation during the March 1 Western SECNAV Championships at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. Team members include Isaac Nelson, Daniel Angeles, Matthew Willey, Giovanni Bran and Valerie Roa.

■ Socorro ISD will have classes on Monday, March 26 and Monday, April 9, to make up the two days the district was closed in January due to snow storms. Because state law requires a certain number of days, these two must be made up. These make-up days, which would otherwise have been student holidays, were approved for classes during a special board meeting on Feb. 5.

■ The El Paso Public Library is currently hosting a photographic exhibit that compares the indigenous people of China with people of Guatemala. The exhibit, entitled *The Face of Two Nations*, is the brainchild of local photographer Marcos Casiano who was impacted by the similarity of the faces he found in these two very different places. The exhibit will remain in the Main Library's new art gallery until the end of March. The exhibit is free and open to the public. For more information call 543-5468.

■ The Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy is a 10-week program — days and times to be determined by the attendees — that will give citizens a background and working knowledge of the Sheriff's Office and how it serves the community. The first day of class is Wednesday, April 4, at 6:30 p.m. These free classes will be held at the Sheriff's Office Administration 3rd Floor Conference Room, 800 E. Overland. Applications can be obtained at the Sheriff's Office, 800 E. Overland, 3rd Floor, and completed, notarized applications must be returned by March 26, to the Citizens Academy Coordinator, El Paso County Sheriff's Office, P.O. Box 125, El Paso, Texas

79941-0125. For additional information regarding the application process call 546-2285 Ext. 4477.

■ Go on, admit it. You loved to attend rock concerts in your younger days, and you're still guilty of cranking the car stereo up when no one's riding with you — but do you also find yourself asking people to repeat themselves or have trouble understanding conversations in loud rooms? Like just about everything else, hearing changes with age. But you don't have to let hearing loss create embarrassing situations. Order *Sound Advice About Age-Related Hearing Loss* from the Food and Drug Administration to learn about how you can cope with hearing loss, doctors who may be able to help, and treatments available — it's not just hearing aids anymore. Plus, get tips on how to protect the hearing you still have left. For a free copy, send name and address to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 547P, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1-888-878-3256, and ask for Item 547P. Visit [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov) to read or print this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

■ If you own a private household well, National Ground Water Awareness Week (March 11-17) is for you because there's no time like the present to learn more about your water supply and the well system that brings it into your home. Get a free series of award-winning articles on well ownership and water well-related issues by going to the National Ground Water Association Web site, [Wellowner.org](http://Wellowner.org) ([www.wellowner.org](http://www.wellowner.org)). Click on the "Awareness Week" page and then click on "Clip and Copy articles." It's a little known fact: Nearly half of Americans rely on ground water for all or part of their water supply through privately owned household wells or ground-water supplied community systems. This generates a need for answers about proper well construction, maintenance, water quality and ground water protection. Many of these questions can be answered at the National Ground Water Association (NGWA) Web site, [Wellowner.org](http://Wellowner.org) ([www.wellowner.org](http://www.wellowner.org)) including practical information on well basics; well maintenance; water quality; how to find a water well contractor; and ground water. "Every day, Americans use billions of gallons of ground water from household wells," said Kevin McCray, executive director of the NGWA. "Yet, many well owners know very little about well basics. [Wellowner.org](http://Wellowner.org) provides a place where well owners can learn more about the importance of well maintenance, water testing and ground water protection." The web site provides practical information on what's involved in a proper well checkup by a contractor, causes and solutions to water pressure issues, well protection, contamination and more.

# Five are given the Flo Hyman Award

By Irma Flores  
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Evelyn Barraza, an 8th grade student-athlete at Paso Del Norte, has been selected as this year's Middle School Flo Hyman Award winner. Nominated by her coach, Larry Villa, Evelyn was selected for the local award because she demonstrates dignity, spirit and commitment to excellence in the classroom and on the playing field. The El Paso Girls and Women in Sports Day Committee honored Evelyn and four other deserving young ladies with a local Flo Hyman Award for their contributions in academics, athletics and leadership within the El Paso community.

The four other local honorees were Yedith Cortez from Clint High School, Taylor Cromeens of Faith Christian Academy, Loren Del Toro from Canyon Hills Middle School and Isabel Montoya from Douglas Elementary.

This year's recipients were honored during a banquet on Feb. 22 in the Hall of Champions at Larry K. Durham Center at the Sun Bowl on UTEP's campus. They were also VIP guests at the UTEP vs. Tulsa Women's Basketball game that day.

The award is named after Flo Hyman who was considered the best volleyball player ever and an Olympic Silver Medalist. She was a tremendous leader who made a strong impact on women's athletics. The award was created to honor a top female athlete for her accomplishments both on and off the field of competition. Previous national Flo Hyman Award winners include Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Chris Evert, Mary Lou Retton, Billie Jean King, Bonnie Blair, and Monica Seles.

One other Socorro ISD student has received the award. In 2001, William D. Slider student, Jackie Sandoval, was recognized. UTEP and the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department have been handing out this award since 2000.



"I'm not going to waste this beautiful vacation day! Let's go to the mall!"

People know Pueblo for its...



Famous Hot Salsa?

In Pueblo, the free government information is also hot. Spice up your life by dipping into the Consumer Information Center web site, [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov). You can download all the information right away. Sorry, salsa not available through our web site or Catalog.



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

**GOOD ON AND OFF THE COURT — Paso del Norte 8th grader, Evelyn Barraza, is recognized by UTEP and the El Paso City Parks and Recreation department for her hard work in the classroom and on the volleyball court. Coach Larry Villa nominated Evelyn Barraza for the Flo Hyman Award.**



## Grad

From Page 1

Elizario ISD Adult Education Program.

There are resources available to assist other former students who dropped out of school, are missing credits, or did not pass portions of the state mandated exam. Anyone can see one of the high school coun-

selors who will assess their credit and TAKS needs and then be placed on a plan to complete missing coursework.

San Elizario High School runs the A+ Credit Recovery Program every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. It is a self-paced, on-line program where students can complete coursework or practice for any portion of the state mandated exam. There is also a facilitator on-site to address any questions that students may have.

## COMBINED NOTICE FROM THE TOWN OF ANTHONY, TEXAS NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF THE FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT and NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS in connection with the HOME Investment Partnerships Program

TOWN OF ANTHONY  
401 Oak St.  
Anthony, Tx 79821  
(915) 886-3944

### TO: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

On or about sixteen (16) days after this publication, the Town of Anthony intends to request that Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) release federal funds under Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, for the following project:

### HOME Program Contract Number 1000298 Program/Project Description:

Owner-Occupied Housing Assistance Project consisting of rehabilitation and reconstruction of housing the following locations in the Town of Anthony, Texas: (1) 501 Jamie; (2) 912 Poplar; (3) 904 Elm; (4) 808 Tamarisk; (5) 402 Franklin.

Total HOME Contract Award: \$187,546.00

### Finding of No Significant Impact

It has been determined that such a request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and, accordingly, the Town of Anthony has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190). The reason for the decision not to prepare such a statement is based upon the fact that all environmental concerns could either be minimized or mitigated.

The Town of Anthony has made an Environmental Review Record addressing the project referenced above and documenting the environmental review status of the project.

That Environmental Review Record is on file in the Town of Anthony City Hall, and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

### Public Comments on Findings

All interested agencies, groups, and individuals disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the town at the address set forth above.

Such written comments must be received at the address specified within fifteen (15) days after this publication.

All such comments so received will be considered by the Town of Anthony. The town will not submit the Request for Release of Funds or take further administrative action on the project prior to the end of the comment period specified. Comments should specify which notice they are addressing.

### Release of Funds

The Town of Anthony will undertake the project referenced above with funds from the HOME Investment Partnerships Program of the Texas Department of Housing and Com-

munity Affairs under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990.

The town is certifying to Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs that the Town of Anthony and the Honorable Art Franco, in his official capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental review, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied for this project.

The legal effect of the certification is that, upon its approval, the town will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and 24 CFR Part 58, and may use HOME Program funds.

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if the objection is based on one of the following reasons: (a) That the certification was not, in fact, executed by the chief executive officer or other certifying officer of the Contract Administrator approved by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs; or (b) That the responsible entity, s Environmental Review Record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the required environmental review procedures (24 CFR Part 58); or (c) That the program grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs; or (d) That another federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. Potential objectors should contact the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs will not consider objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above. Objections will be received for a period of fifteen (15) days following the anticipated submission date or the actual receipt of the request, whichever is later.

Any objection must be made in writing to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, P. O. Box 13941, Capitol Station, Austin, Tx 78711-3941. Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. No objections received later than thirty-three (33) days after this publication will be considered by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

Art Franco  
Mayor

Date Published:  
March 15, 2007

# NBA: Noxious Behavior Allowed

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

Most basketball fans agree that the NBA regular season has become almost totally unwatchable. There are so many games that they don't mean very much. Players don't put it all on the line until the playoffs come along. And then there are just too many bad teams who think passing is a sin.

As bad as things are, last week was especially bad for the boring league. Unfortunately, it got people interested again.

The behavior of a bad boy got worse and the diminishing reputation of a superstar took another hit.

Ron Artest, who would feel right at home in any episode of COPS, proved last week that he really is one of the toughest guys in the league.

Only he proved his manhood by slapping his wife around.

Artest was arrested (again) for domestic abuse after pushing his wife to the ground dur-

ing an argument at their house. The Sacramento Kings power forward was also charged with using force to try to prevent her from reporting the incident.

In what must have been a shock to no one, police told the press that they've made several visits to the Artest household.

The last time they paid Artest a visit was because he had apparently not fed several dogs on his five-acre estate. At least the guy is consistent, he treats his dogs like he does his friends, teammates and wife.

For those of you who have really bad memories, Artest is the guy who started the whole infamous Pistons-Pacers brawl that ended up in the stands with fans.

Remember Artest was the guy who got pushed by Detroit's powerful Ben Wallace. Showing his true courage, Artest didn't do a single thing to the menacing Wallace, but stormed into the stands in pursuit of a much smaller fan after a paper cup was thrown at him.

Now that Artest has smacked his wife around, he's proven without a doubt that he

stands at the very bottom of the manhood food chain. Give this guy a fan about 10 inches shorter than him, or just about any female, and Artest is quite the tough guy.

The Kings had suspended Artest but allowed him back on the team last Sunday.

The big question on everybody's mind is whether Artest is through in Sacramento, or maybe in the NBA?

Anybody who knows anything about professional sports knows that character plays absolutely no role when building a roster.

If you can play — and manage to avoid actual jail time — there will always be a team willing to take a chance on a thug. And Ron Artest is the NBA's very definition of the word "thug."

Another guy suffering through yet another public relations nightmare is Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant.

Seems Bryant is getting more and more frustrated that he just can't do the Michael Jordan or Shaquille O'Neal thing and lead his team to the upper echelon of the league.

Remember Kobe made an ultimatum to the Lakers to either get rid of Shaq or himself. The Lakers made the monumental mistake of choosing to lose Shaq, who went on to help lead the Miami Heat to the NBA title two years later.

And while Shaq has helped make the Heat an NBA power, the Kobe-led Lakers continue to flounder in mediocrity.

Kobe is getting so frustrated that he's beginning to take it out on his opponents.

For the second time in a month a defender blocked Bryant's shot late in the game — leading to a Lakers loss. But that wasn't where it ended. Bryant, in frustration, threw out his arms after the block and smacked both defenders in the face.

And for the second time in a month, Kobe was suspended a game for the infraction.

It's the fifth time that Kobe has been suspended by the NBA for fighting or elbowing or smacking some player in frustration.

Bryant is beginning to feel the pressure, especially late in close games. When things don't go his way he makes a spectacle of himself — arguing with officials and playing to the crowd.

This is not the way the Lakers veteran was packaged when he first came into the league. He was supposed to be the face of the NBA.

Now with the suspensions, his troubles with the law, his infidelity, and his fights with teammates and coaches, Bryant is quickly becoming an embarrassment.

But the Lakers brass must be happy, they're stuck with the guy they always wanted.

## Classified Ads

### LEGAL

#### Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation

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 10-15 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 April 2, 2007. 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: 03/15/07 03/22/07

#### VILLAGE OF VINTON, TEXAS

#### NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ENGINEERING AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The Village of Vinton, Texas, is soliciting proposals from:

A qualified engineer or engineering firm licensed in the State of Texas to provide general engineering services

to the locality with respect to the following subject areas:

- Subdivision & Development Plats
- Zoning
- Improvement Project Design & Management
- Community Development Project Design & Management
- Prepare Reports & Attend Meetings for City Council Planning/Development and Planning & Zoning
- Other Special Engineering Services as needed (such as environmental, surveys, etc.)

In order to be considered proposals must be submitted prior to 4:30 PM on the 30th day of March, 2007.

A complete request for proposals, outlining services required by the locality, submission requirements, and evaluation criteria, has been prepared. Interested parties may obtain copies of this Request for Proposals by contacting:

Jessica Garza, Village Clerk  
Village of Vinton  
436 Vinton Road  
Vinton, TX 79821  
(915)886-5104

The locality reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms submitting proposals, in accordance with the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards Act, and may choose to retain services for three consecutive years. The locality reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

The Village of Vinton is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employer.

Madeleine Praino, Mayor

Date published: March 15, 2007

#### SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007**

**DISTRICT AWARDS CSP NO. 199-0322-7078 ACCEPTED UNTIL 10:30 A.M.**

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and on the Socorro ISD website: www.sisd.net. WTCC-03/15/07

#### SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Invitation to Bid/Respond:

Sealed bids/proposals/CSP/RFP to furnish the District with the following products and/or

services will be accepted at the following times:

**MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2007**

**TEST AND BALANCE SERVICES FOR AIR CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT CSP NO. 199-0326-7064 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2 P.M.**

**DISTRICT STORAGE AREA NETWORK (SAN) IMPLEMENTATION CSP NO. 199-0326-7076 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:30 P.M.**

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and on the Socorro ISD website: www.sisd.net. WTCC-03/15/07

#### SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2007**

#### Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2007**  
**READING INTERVENTION PROGRAM GRADES 4-12**

**CSP NO. 199-0328-7075 ACCEPTED UNTIL 10:30 A.M.**

**SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNING CURRICULUM CSP NO. 199-0328-7074 ACCEPTED UNTIL 11:00 A.M.**

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and on the Socorro ISD website: www.sisd.net. WTCC-03/15/07

#### SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2007**

#### Indian Cliffs Ranch, Inc. SECURITY GUARD

Steady job for mature, older person. From 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. with overtime. Very good pay and very good working conditions. Must live in lower valley or Horizon. Ideal candidate will be bilingual and will be able to ride a horse. Our last security guard was with us for over 12 years, when he retired. Must pass thorough background check. We can furnish a trailer home for right person. Fax resume to 764-4168 or call Jose Vega at Indian Cliffs Ranch, 544-3200.

**RETAIL GOODS CSP NO. 199-0328-7073 ACCEPTED UNTIL 3 P.M.**

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and on the Socorro ISD website: www.sisd.net. WTCC-03/15/07

#### HELP WANTED

#### The Village of Vinton, Texas

#### Job Announcement for Deputy Clerk

The Village of Vinton, Texas has an immediate opening for a Full-Time and Part-Time Deputy Clerk. Individual must be organized; be able to meet deadlines, work well under pressure; have good research abilities; be able to work independently; and have extensive computer and accounting skills (Microsoft Office

(all) and Quickbooks). Candidates must also be able to conduct public meetings, perform administrative duties, and be able to provide reports upon request. Municipal experience is a plus. Available to work evenings 1-2 times per week. The Deputy Clerks will also answer phones, cashier, prepare correspondence and assist with other department functions.

Must have 2+ years of college courses pertaining to business administration or 4+ years municipal experience. Salary commensurate

with experience. **Deadline: March 23, 2007 by 4:30 pm**

Contact: Charlie Dickason (915) 532-9400

Part-time bartender needed at the Horizon City American Legion. Call 852-4823 after 3 p.m. 3/29

#### STORAGE

20X45' SPACE FOR LEASE **HORIZON SELF STORAGE** 418 S. Kenazo **852-9371** 3/29

#### SELF-HELP

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

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

#### SERVICES

**"Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring" JIFFY GLASS REPAIR** Windshield Repair Specialists By appt. at your

home or office: R.V. Dick Harshberger **915-852-9082**

#### BERT'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

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

#### HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079

•Electric rooter service for sewers and drains  
•Appliance installation  
•Many other plumbing services Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.

archives: www.wtccourier.com



## 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

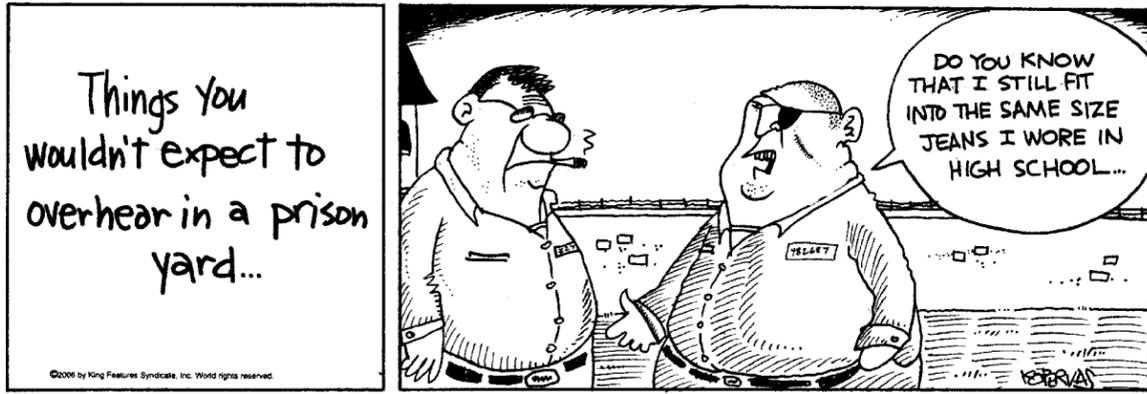
Contact Information:

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

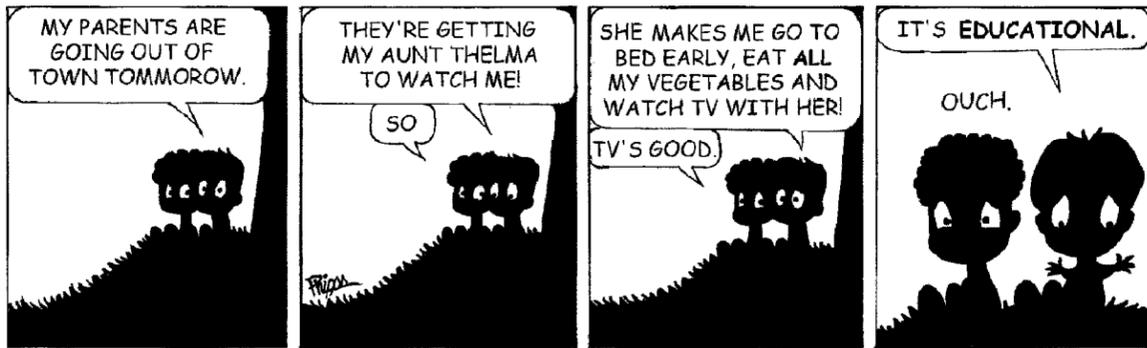
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# Comix

## OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



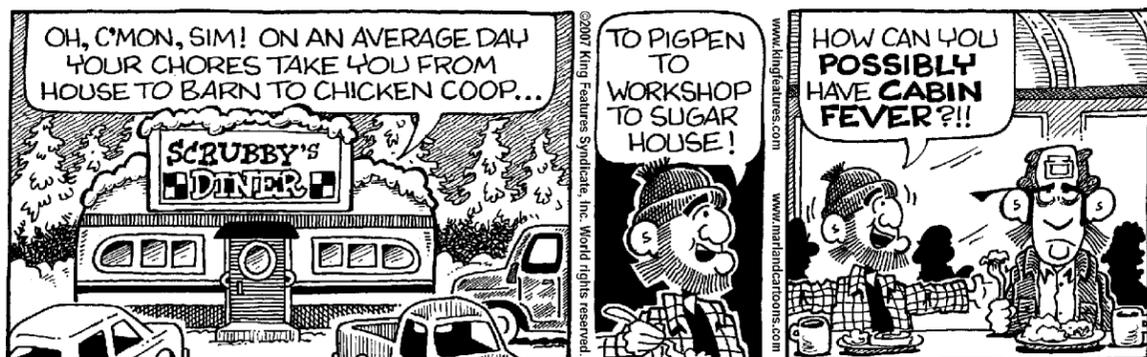
## AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



## THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



## R.F.D. By Mike Marland



# It's time to engage the asteroid

By Don Flood

This week's bad news: An asteroid will destroy the Earth and all its inhabitants, except for Cher, in 2036.

The good news: The U.N. is being urged to meet this threat (really).

This preceding disaster scenario is not wholly true, in that the asteroid is believed to have less than a 1 in 45,000 chance of hitting the Earth, but imagine if it did — just as the latest season of "American Idol" was beginning.

But first, we need a color-coded asteroid warning system:

Green — Asteroid hit expected today, to be followed by 10,000 years of choking dust and total darkness; don't bother taking stuff to dry cleaners.

Orange — Probable end of life was we know it, except perhaps for characters from "Lost," about whom we have no idea; TiVo unlikely to work properly.

Red — This is going to be a Really Bad Day.

And now on to my plan, which I call on the U.N. to adopt immediately:

1. Send a mission of Earthlings who have — or who seem to have — intimate contact with outer space, such as Michael Jackson, Britney Spears, Lindsay Lohan, just about anybody involved with the Anna Nicole Smith case, etc., to engage the asteroid.

2. Inform the asteroid of the behavior expected of it and the potential rewards of positive behavior, such as a starring role in new disaster flick.

3. Inform asteroid that even a slight brush with Earth would result in economic sanctions, not to mention our most keen disappointment.

4. Commence economic sanctions, including the immediate cessation of broadcasts beaming

popular '70s TV shows into space.

5. Finally, if necessary, asteroid would be placed on the List of Very Naughty Asteroids.

Elsewhere in the news comes the welcome report that JetBlue plans to issue a customer Bill of Rights, it having recently discovered that the Founding Fathers forgot to include anything about air travel in their original version. (And everybody acts like they're so smart!)

This initiative came on the heels of the recent case where JetBlue Blue trapped travelers for 10 hours on the flight line, the result being a swift descent into depravity, cannibalism and the reported forced viewings of Adam Sandler movies.

(The last charge, still under investigation by a U.N. human rights committee, has yet to be confirmed.)

Here's what I would expect to be included in a Bill of Rights, if I spent 10 hours sitting in a plane awaiting takeoff:

- Airline shall grant free flights for remainder of traveler's life; further this right is to be extended to any children, grandchildren, friends, acquaintances, potential members of entourage, etc., of traveler's choice.

- Airline shall, as just compensation, bestow upon traveler a vacation home of his choice.

- Airline shall grant traveler unlimited bags of peanuts, pretzels or whatever snack packs it is dispensing on that flight.

- Airline shall provide instant passage through security lines, with no removal of shoes or belt necessary.

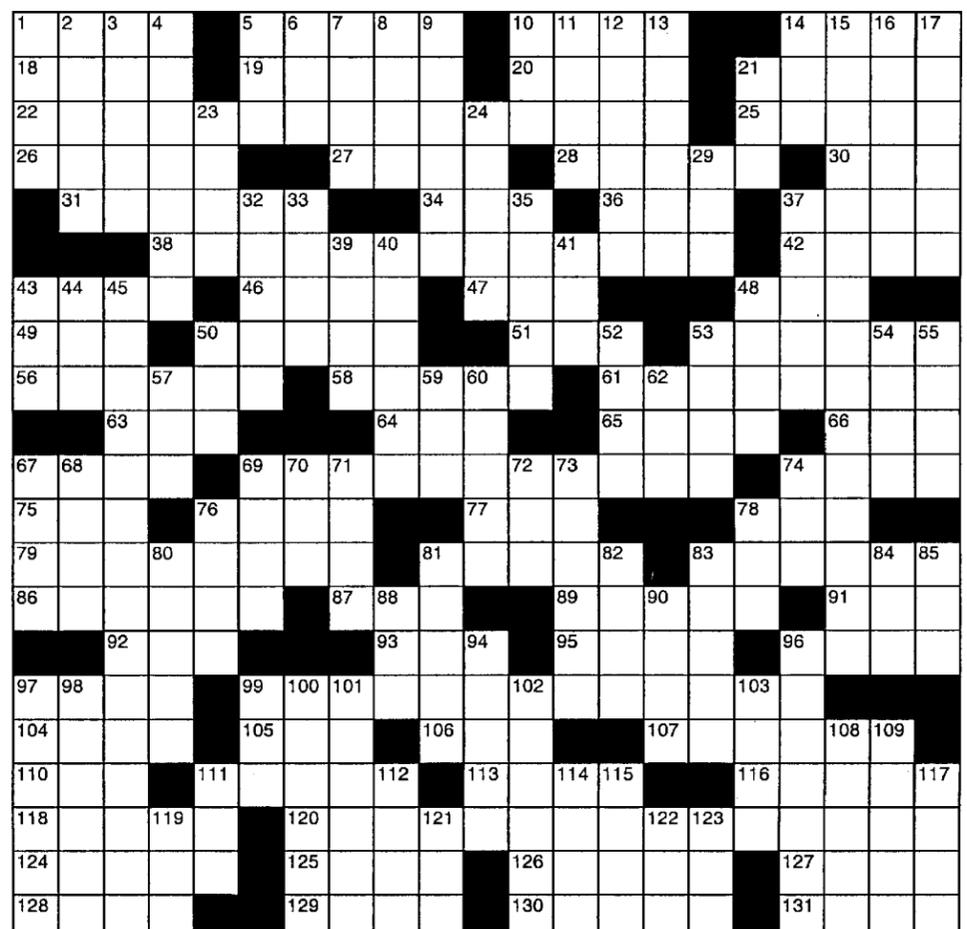
- Airline shall guarantee that no Adam Sandler movies are to be shown on traveler's flight.

However, I think the U.N. is already working on the last one.

(c) 2007 King Features Synd., Inc.

# King Super Crossword

- COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY ACROSS**
- 1 Dog star?
  - 5 Iraqi city
  - 10 "Norwegian \_" ('65 song)
  - 14 Act like Etna
  - 18 Towel word
  - 19 Startled cry
  - 20 Feminist Belmont
  - 21 \_ Gras
  - 22 Elusive
  - 25 Shun
  - 26 Brando's birthplace
  - 27 Part of ER
  - 28 Synthetic textile
  - 30 Exploit
  - 31 Pipeline place
  - 34 Fairway accessory
  - 36 \_es Salaam
  - 37 Adored one
  - 38 Relaxed
  - 42 Scads
  - 43 Future of the present
  - 46 Be bombastic
  - 47 Smash letters
  - 48 Faux \_
  - 49 Unfashionable
  - 50 Warehouse
  - 51 Clean-air org.
  - 53 Bog
  - 56 Crested reptile
  - 58 Vision
  - 61 Novelist Carr
  - 63 Lingerie item
- DOWN**
- 1 Comment from Chan
  - 2 Actress Diamond
  - 3 Experiment
  - 4 "The \_ Jungle" ('50 film)
  - 5 "Toodle-oo!"
  - 6 Broadcast
  - 7 \_ terrier
  - 8 Enlarge a hole
  - 9 Sometimes they're frozen
  - 10 Pale
  - 11 Dairy-case purchase
  - 12 Go to extremes
  - 13 Cowboys' home
  - 14 Bankbook abbr.
  - 15 Vain
  - 16 New Jersey city
  - 17 Very
  - 21 TV's "Chico and the \_"
  - 23 El \_ TX
  - 24 Zones
  - 29 Nev. neighbor
  - 32 Asian nation
  - 33 PDQ, politely
  - 35 Wading bird
  - 37 Japanese
- porcelain**
- 39 "Dukes of Hazzard" deputy
  - 40 Dress
  - 41 "Alley \_"
  - 43 Luau dish
  - 44 Holidayless mo.
  - 45 Obstinate
  - 48 Gdansk denizen
  - 50 Genes designer?
  - 52 Lhasa \_
  - 53 Grind grain
  - 54 Nimble
  - 55 Rational
  - 57 Is for two
  - 59 Actress Scala
  - 60 Biblical book
  - 62 \_ sweet it is!"
  - 67 San \_ Italy
  - 68 Thickening agent
  - 69 Ebb
  - 70 "\_ Gotta Be Me" ('69 hit)
  - 71 Location
  - 72 Clay, today
  - 73 Karate-chopping Chuck
  - 74 Four qts.
  - 76 Rudner or Gam
  - 78 Jaffe of 4 Down
  - 80 Spoken for
  - 81 Ruffle
  - 82 Jedi instructor
  - 83 Clip
  - 84 Med. test
  - 85 Tons of time
  - 88 Tiny colonist
  - 90 Model
- Macpherson**
- 94 Paul of "Melvin and Howard"
  - 96 Run away
  - 97 Benefactor
  - 98 Baltimore bird
  - 99 Scholastic abbr.
  - 100 Wet Williams
  - 101 Well
  - 102 Mainstay
  - 103 Prepare potatoes
  - 108 Blunder
  - 109 Jamaican cultist
  - 111 Elfin
  - 112 "That's a scream!"
  - 114 Dame Hess
  - 115 Orient
  - 117 Competition
  - 119 Silly Caesar
  - 121 China's \_ Biao
  - 122 Tippler
  - 123 "\_ Day Now" ('62 hit)



Answer Page 8

# Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

**Q:** I have been getting Social Security benefits for several years. I'm still not able to work and am wondering if there is a time limit on disability benefits?

viewed to make sure you still have a disability severe enough to qualify for benefits.

**Q:** I get Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. Do I need to report the financial help I receive from my children?

**A:** Yes. Any money or in-kind support you receive (such as free lodgings and food) must be reported to Social Security. It may or may not affect your SSI, depending on the circumstances.

**A:** No, there is no time limit on receiving Social Security or Supplemental Security Income disability benefits. Your benefits will continue as long as you have a disabling condition that has not improved and that makes you unable to work. From time to time, your case will be re-

**Q:** I got a letter in the mail that said my Supplemental Security Income (SSI) case is being reviewed. What does that mean?

**A:** Periodically, Social Security must review your SSI case to make sure you are still eligible and you are receiving the correct amount.

**Q:** I never got around to applying for the Medicare prescription drug plan or the extra help in paying for it. Will I have to pay a penalty to sign up late?

**A:** Not necessarily. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

(CMS) announced that there will be no late enrollment penalties in 2007 for people who qualify for the extra help. This means that if you have limited income and qualify for the extra help but didn't sign up during your initial enrollment period, you can do so now and still not have to pay a penalty. If you do not qualify for the extra help, you must wait for the next enrollment period for the Medicare prescription drug program, and you may have to pay a penalty.

For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.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.

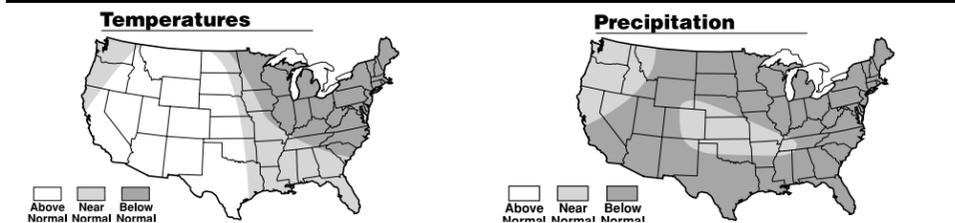


## 7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX AccuWeather.com®

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Plenty of sunshine	Mainly clear	Pleasant with lots of sun	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Sunny	Plenty of sunshine	Plenty of sunshine
82°	50°	78° / 50°	80° / 53°	78° / 51°	78° / 49°	73° / 47°	74° / 47°
RealFeel 85°	RealFeel 48°	RealFeel 80° / 49°	RealFeel 82° / 51°	RealFeel 79° / 45°	RealFeel 76° / 41°	RealFeel 75° / 45°	RealFeel 75° / 45°

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.	7:16 a.m.	7:13 p.m.	Thu.	5:08 a.m.	3:37 p.m.		
Fri.	7:15 a.m.	7:14 p.m.	Fri.	5:47 a.m.	4:48 p.m.		
Sat.	7:14 a.m.	7:15 p.m.	Sat.	6:22 a.m.	5:58 p.m.		
Sun.	7:13 a.m.	7:15 p.m.	Sun.	6:55 a.m.	7:09 p.m.		
Mon.	7:11 a.m.	7:16 p.m.	Mon.	7:27 a.m.	8:20 p.m.		
Tues.	7:10 a.m.	7:17 p.m.	Tues.	8:00 a.m.	9:33 p.m.		
Wed.	7:09 a.m.	7:17 p.m.	Wed.	8:37 a.m.	10:46 p.m.		

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2007

### REGIONAL CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Abilene, TX	80	52	pc	62	48	pc	65	55	pc	74	56	pc
Albuquerque, NM	73	44	s	74	45	s	76	44	s	76	44	s
Amarillo, TX	69	43	pc	57	39	pc	68	43	pc	75	44	pc
Austin, TX	81	54	pc	70	56	pc	67	55	pc	73	57	pc
Brownsville, TX	88	65	pc	81	66	pc	80	65	pc	81	65	pc
Dodge City, KS	56	39	pc	55	41	pc	64	42	pc	67	40	pc
Jackson, MS	74	53	t	67	48	pc	68	45	pc	68	50	pc
Laredo, TX	97	68	pc	82	66	pc	82	66	pc	82	67	pc
Little Rock, AR	77	52	c	60	41	pc	66	44	pc	64	49	pc
Lubbock, TX	78	45	pc	62	43	pc	67	48	pc	77	48	pc
Memphis, TN	74	52	t	62	45	pc	67	46	pc	64	51	pc
Midland, TX	82	52	pc	66	46	pc	67	52	pc	77	51	pc
Pueblo, CO	65	34	pc	68	34	pc	70	37	s	74	35	s
Roswell, NM	83	44	s	67	44	s	78	45	s	80	45	s
St. Louis, MO	54	40	sh	52	39	pc	53	40	pc	57	45	c
San Antonio, TX	85	60	pc	74	59	pc	71	59	pc	74	60	pc
Texarkana, AR	79	54	c	65	46	pc	63	49	pc	67	51	pc
Waco, TX	80	54	pc	66	53	pc	66	54	pc	71	57	pc
Wichita, KS	62	42	pc	57	41	s	56	44	pc	65	47	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	71	56	t	62	51	sh	66	44	pc	64	46	pc
Boston	54	31	r	44	33	r	40	31	sn	41	31	pc
Chicago	46	30	r	38	30	c	38	27	pc	44	33	c
Denver	57	34	pc	59	36	pc	64	38	s	68	36	pc
Detroit	45	30	r	37	29	c	37	27	pc	42	30	pc
Houston	81	59	pc	75	59	pc	69	55	pc	71	59	pc
Indianapolis	54	35	r	45	34	c	45	31	pc	48	38	pc
Kansas City	52	36	pc	50	37	s	54	42	c	61	45	pc
Los Angeles	73	56	pc	75	57	pc	76	56	s	72	56	s
Miami	82	69	t	81	70	t	82	66	pc	81	66	s
Minneapolis	41	26	c	36	25	pc	39	30	pc	48	34	r
New Orleans	77	60	t	71	61	pc	72	56	pc	72	56	pc
New York City	59	36	sh	53	33	r	40	33	pc	44	35	pc
Omaha	56	32	pc	49	33	s	46	34	c	57	38	pc
Phoenix	89	59	s	91	62	pc	92	62	s	91	62	s
San Francisco	69	48	pc	69	50	s	69	50	s	67	52	pc
Seattle	50	40	pc	52	44	r	55	44	r	54	42	c
Washington	69	42	c	52	36	r	49	35	pc	51	39	pc

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