

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Fireworks warning

The July 4th holiday is almost upon us and the El Paso Fire Department will begin setting up checkpoints at all entrances in the City of El Paso starting Monday June 25, 2007. Fire Officials would like to remind the citizens of El Paso that fireworks are illegal inside the City of El Paso. If you are caught with fireworks inside the city limits, which include 5,000 feet beyond the city limits, your fireworks will be confiscated and you will be issued a citation. Fines can go as high as \$500.00. El Paso Fire Officials are asking the public to attend one of the many professional firework displays throughout the city. Firework facts:

- Nearly 70 percent of all fireworks-related injuries take place around the 4th of July holiday.
- More than 50 percent of those injuries occur to children and teenagers.
- The top three injury-causing fireworks are firecrackers, sparklers, and rockets.
- Children most often suffer burns, lacerations and eye injuries.
- 9,600 emergency room-treated injuries associated with fireworks in 2004. 6,600 of the injuries occurred in a single month (June 19 — July 19, 2004).

### Crime Stoppers

El Paso has three recent unsolved bank robberies, and you could have the tip to help Crime Stoppers and local law enforcement solve one of them. On Saturday, May 19, at 2:30 P.M. two masked men robbed the Chase Bank at 11391 Montwood with black handguns. They are possibly black males, early to mid-twenties, 5'-8" inches in height, thin builds, wearing hooded sweatshirts. They made their escape in a dark gray or black, medium-size vehicle, with no other description. On Monday, June 11, there were two more bank robberies. The first, at 11:45 a.m., took place at El Paso Employees Federal Credit Union, 909 Magoffin Street. The lone suspect displayed a handgun and fled down the alley in back. He is described as an Hispanic male, 5'-6" to 6' in height, wearing blue jeans, a long-sleeve navy blue t-shirt, and a mask. The second robbery on June 11 occurred at 4:30 p.m. at United Bank of El Paso, 9801 Gateway West. The lone suspect fled on foot and was described as an Hispanic male in his early 20's, 5'-8" tall, thin build, blue Nike baseball cap, long sleeve Ralph Lauren shirt, with blue jeans, white tennis shoes, carrying a black backpack. If you know anything about these cases, call Crime Stoppers at 566-TIPS (566-8477) or on-line at [www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org](http://www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org). You can remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you can qualify for a cash reward.

### In other news

■ Small businesses account for 99 percent of U. S. employers, employ 50

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*The difference between antiques and junk depends on who's selling what to whom.*

— Quips & Quotes



— Photo courtesy Tornillo ISD

**CHATting** — Tornillo ISD Superintendent Paul Vranish addresses attendees during the TISD "Parent Chat" presentation at the Summer Leadership Institute Conference in San Antonio.

## Tornillo ISD 'Parent Chats' gain state attention

By Rudy Barreda  
Special to the Courier

The Tornillo ISD Board of Trustees recently gave presentations on parent involvement at two separate conferences in San Antonio. The first presentation was given for the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) during their Summer Leadership Institute (SLI). The second presentation was given at the Summer Conference held by the Texas Rural Education Association (TREA). The Tornillo presentation team consisted of TISD Board President Joe Tittle, Board Secretary Rachel Avila, Board Member Ofelia Bosquez, Superintendent Paul Vranish, TISD parent Antonia Alonso and TISD employee Estela Pacheco.

TISD representatives had given a similar presentation in April at the 67th annual conference of the National School Boards Association in San Francisco.

The Tornillo team had presented at the SLI Conference before, and because of the outstanding response to their presentations, they were invited to present again. Tornillo ISD has had great success with their "Parent Chats", which are parent meetings held each month and sponsored by one of the district's four campuses. School district board members and employees across the state were eager to hear the presentations, as parent involvement can be a

critical issue for school districts. The "standing room only" crowd at both conferences was also quite impressed with the fact that the chats are simultaneous translated into Spanish by TISD employee Estela Pacheco. The Tornillo team was pleased to have such a tremendous turnout, especially at the SLI conference, where 320 people attended Tornillo's presentation, which was given on June 14th. "We ran out of business cards," stated Pacheco. "It was very exciting to be able to respond to the audience's interest regarding our Parent Chats, and to have school people across the state congratulate us for our success."



Paul Vranish

The next morning, the Tornillo group gave their presentation for TREA. Superintendent Vranish was pleased with the response from both audiences. "The Tornillo ISD Board believes that giving back to the education community is an important part of their service," stated Vranish. "Presentations such as these two, and the recent offering at the National School Board conference, serve to showcase not only our District, but the high levels of support and the outstanding partnership between the school and the parents of our community."

## Town of Clint, San Eli ISD move forward with parks

By Don Woodyard  
Courier Staff Writer

CLINT — Agendas for the June meetings for the Town of Clint and the San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) had one thing in common — parks in progress.

Puddle Duck Park in Clint came closer to reality in Clint's June 12 town council meeting. On June 13, trustees of the SEISD took action regarding the naming of a park under construction to honor a pioneer San Elizario family.

Puddle Duck Park is a pet project of Sandra Reinhardt, wife of Clint Mayor Dale Reinhardt.

She told council members that El Paso Electric had come in and topped off dangerously tall trees on the quarter-acre site near the railroad tracks. She said about \$5,000 has been donated to the project which began about 18 months ago. Of that sum, \$3,500 was donated by AT&T, and \$300 was donated recently by CEA Engineering.

(The name of the park comes from a Beatrix Potter children's book featuring Jemima Puddle

Duck. Grandfather Dale read about the adventures of Jemima Puddle Duck to his grandson Cash Day, now 18 months old, soon after he was born.)

In recognition of park project progress, Reinhardt handed out little rubber ducks to council members.

With trees topped off, the next steps are putting up fencing around the park and the purchase of playground equipment. She hopes to have the area, once known as Hobo Park, open by the spring of next year.

The SEISD board of trustees was asked that a community park, now nearing completion behind the school district's Excell Academy, be named in honor of Jose Jorge Perez.

In a letter to the board, County Commissioner Miguel Teran recommends that the park be named for Perez who was the second teacher hired in the school district in 1895.

Descendants of Perez also spoke to trustees, asking the board to name the park for him.

After discussion, the board approved trustee Vicente Delgadillo's request that a committee be formed to get input from the community before taking action on naming the park.

## Respond to IRS audits promptly, knowledgeably

By Al Rickard  
Special to the Courier

It's everyone's worst nightmare — an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) audit finds some issues with your past tax returns and you must go before the IRS to argue your case.

Or maybe you've fallen behind on tax payments or overlooked a requirement that has attracted the attention of the IRS.

What do you do? What are your rights? How do you clear your name?

Members of the National Society of Accountants (NSA) Federal Taxation Committee have some advice.

"First of all, don't freak out," advises Paul Thompson, EA, ABA, ATA, ECS, of Premier Tax & Accounting, LLC, in Alexandria, VA. "Second, do not ignore the correspondence and don't wait until the last day to respond. The key to resolving issues expeditiously is to communicate with the IRS and be truthful."

Thompson says if the IRS is raising only one small issue and you feel comfortable addressing it, then do so. However, if you are confused and don't understand the letter, you should contact your tax professional and let him/her handle it.

"You are entitled to be represented by your tax professional, and that person should be experienced enough to get it resolved," Thompson says. "If you don't have one, get one. Unless you know the tax laws, it could cost you a substantial amount of money and time. A good tax professional can possibly help with the penalties that are being assessed."

If you choose to have your tax professional represent you, you will need to sign a power of attorney (Form 2848) unless the notice deals with the most recent tax year completed and you checked the box on your return to allow the IRS to discuss that tax year's issues.

"Navigating complex issues with the IRS takes experience and knowledge," Thompson says. "The IRS can make mistakes, but a taxpayer not experienced in the tax laws and dealing with the IRS will probably not catch a mistake."

NSA advises that if you can't get past the local IRS agent, you can request a conference with the person's supervisor. If you are still in disagreement, then ask for an appeals conference. The individual assigned to do the appeal is supposed to be unbiased.

If you are having trouble getting issues resolved in a timely manner and the delay is due to the IRS, then you can contact the IRS Taxpayer Advocate's Office. This office is staffed with individuals who can intervene on your behalf when dealing with the IRS.

The IRS has free publications available to explain the rules and regulations such as your rights as a taxpayer (Publication 1), the IRS collection process (Publication 594), innocent spouse relief (Publication 971), and the Taxpayer Advocate Service (Publication 1546).

NSA offers these five tips for dealing with an IRS audit:

1. You can minimize the risk of an IRS

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## One perspective

By Francis Shrum

### The greatest consumers in the world

I've been wondering lately about what is going to become of us.

I know a lot of people worry about war and fuel prices and the rising cost of medical care and corruption in government. Those are all very valid things to worry about but what I'm most concerned about is what we are becoming.

What kind of people are we and who are we raising?

I started thinking about this awhile back when I realized that the biggest and most important thing a kid can do to get noticed and rewarded in school — next to being a star athlete, of course — is to be successful at fundraising.

Schools and other youth organizations are all about raising money. And we don't care how they do it, just as

long as a kid makes the bucks and puts them in the bucket.

An enterprising spirit is a very worthwhile attribute. Unfortunately, if it isn't coupled with a sense of hard work and a desire to actually produce a valuable service or product, a willingness to go for the bucks becomes little more than a self-serving attitude.

I don't blame the kids. They are just connecting the dots the quickest and easiest way possible, with the highest possible yield and the least amount of effort.

You know, just like we taught them to do.

We were once a mighty agricultural nation with a work ethic and a gross national product that stunned (and often fed) the world.

But we wanted more, which wasn't necessarily a bad thing, so we started producing other things, too. We became a mighty industrial giant, with a work ethic and creative genius that stunned the world.

But we wanted more, which wasn't necessarily a bad thing, except we were getting lazy about it and began farming out the sweat and labor parts to people who were still hungry. We started looking for ways to "work smarter, not harder" and we led the charge into a technological age that has stunned the world.

Unfortunately, nowadays when I have a technical problem with my newest electronic device, the voice on the help-line is hardly understandable because we've outsourced this job to some company in India.

Along with our work ethic, our creative genius and our adaptability we're now abandoning even our willingness to sit on our butts and tap on a keyboard — if we're doing it as a job.

If it's for fun and entertainment, well, that's a whole other story.

My question remains — what is going to become of us?

I've been listening to a lot of young

people lately, first in a vocational training program and now in the workplace.

I'm frightened and ashamed to say that the greatest common goal among most of them is to do expend the least possible amount of effort, with expectation of being compensated at the maximum level, and to have as much "free" time as possible away from anything that even remotely smacks of obligatory requirement.

You know, like work.

Well, recently I have seen the future, as demonstrated by our best, our brightest, our most promising young people. They were engaged in fundraising efforts to finance their travels to other places to play games. It was the sort of thing that should stun the world.

They were begging on street corners.

And why not? It's the oldest and most efficient way to raise money with the least possible amount of effort.

In the past, you'd expect to see only the most poor and unfortunate among us — or their representatives — asking for handouts. And there was a time when a healthy, strong individual would have been ashamed

to ask for a handout without working for it.

Welcome to our brave new world.

So I sat there in my car at the street light and watched these healthy, smiling, intelligent young men and women dressed in clothing designed to show off their considerable physical attributes, carrying their plastic containers from window to window, asking people to just give them money so they could go play.

I've never experienced a hungry day in my life, but I remember the summer jobs we used to do to raise extra cash when we were young. My brothers hauled hay and did all kinds of strenuous labor. My sisters hoed weeds in a cotton field. We got jobs as ranch hands, building fence and working livestock.

A smiling young man shook his bucket at me as he passed my window and I thought that maybe this is what we will finally become — a society that wants something for nothing, feeding off each other without giving anything substantial in return until finally there is nothing left to consume.

After all, aren't Americans known as the greatest consumers in the world?



## Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

### Improvements may not be enough if East County floods

Hola, mi gente, already this year we have seen hints of the upcoming monsoon season. I hope that none of you has forgotten the impact last year's monsoons had on El Paso, particularly in east El Paso County.

The intense rainfall, considered to be a 100 year event, caused a lot of damage and created a lot of stress for the residents in the Mission Valley area. I will never forget the impact that the first storm, on July 28, had on the residents on Mankato Road

and those just below the City of El Paso Landfill.

Both areas were overwhelmed by the huge amounts of storm water that flashed through the arroyos and transported tons of mud. I was amazed, and grateful to God, that no one was killed by either flood.

Many of you will also recall the devastation in Socorro around the Valley Ridge subdivision. The image of the short patch of roadway destroyed was indicative of how dangerous flood waters can be. It is also indicative of the possible conse-

quences when arroyos are altered by amateur engineers.

Because of the monsoon season arrival, on Friday, June 22 I enlisted the assistance of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to inspect the areas most vulnerable to the flash floods. I flew in the DPS helicopter over the areas in my district which were severely impacted by the 100 year flood event last year.

I was impressed by many improvements that were evident. The City of El Paso landfill, in particular, had apparent improvement to its storm

water retention dams. The dams that failed last year appeared to be cleared of silt and deepened. In addition, two walls of dirt were created between the landfill and I-10 further preventing a massive flood into the Clint area.

I am, however, very concerned with two areas in particular. The new development just west of Horizon City on Eastlake appeared to be lacking in the required ponding areas for the resulting runoff. This runoff runs directly into the arroyo which flashes through Sparks and then into Socorro. While the City of Socorro has modified the flow of flash flood waters, I am not certain the consequences of the changes will be totally beneficial.

The other area that I am extremely concerned with is the arroyo above the Mankato Road area. It still seems very vulnerable.

In the last legislative session, I

passed a bill allowing the Public Service Board the authority to impact flood areas outside the City of El Paso. I was assured by PSB General Manager Ed Archuleta that they will be addressing the flood potential on a regional basis. I hope that he and the Board will do that soon. I don't anticipate changes this year, but perhaps within a year some impact can be made in the east county areas.

The best advice I can give you is to be prepared for the worst. To help you, I recommend that you visit [http://www.ci.el-paso.tx.us/fire/emergency\\_management\\_division.asp](http://www.ci.el-paso.tx.us/fire/emergency_management_division.asp) on the City of El Paso webpage or call the El Paso Fire Department and ask for the Emergency Management Division.

Gracias, mi gente, and I remain your friend and public servant, Chente for la gente.



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

### Immigration reform must remain a congressional priority

In light of recent Senate actions to res-

urrect discussions on immigration reform, members of the U.S. - Mexico Border and Immigration Task Force, a delegation of border community leaders, could not have arrived to Washington at a more opportune time to advocate for this important issue. The diverse array of Task Force members who arrived last week included elected officials, religious leaders, academics, and advocates from El Paso, Southern New Mexico, and Arizona.

As their representative and as a leader on border security and immigration issues, the El Paso delegates reached out to me for guidance in planning their visit, and I was happy to work with them and help facilitate high-level meetings and events. I consider it of paramount importance that Members of the U.S. House have access to the perspectives of people who live on the border and are im-

acted by the immigration issue on a daily basis.

The delegation included: Susie Byrd, El Paso City Council Representative; Veronica Escobar, El Paso County Commissioner Court; Fernando Garcia, Executive Director, Border Network for Human Rights; Iliana Holguin, Executive Director, Diocese for Migrant and Refugee Services; Trinidad Lopez, Mayor of Socorro, Texas; Cristina Morales, University of Texas at El Paso, Professor, Sociology Department; José Rodriguez, El Paso County Attorney; Ruben Segura, Mayor of Sunland Park, New Mexico; and Chief Richard Wiles, El Paso Police Department.

To ensure the best use of the Task Force's time, I arranged a meeting for them with influential Members of the U.S. House and the Administration, including House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer and El Pasoan Al Martinez-Fonts, Assistant Secretary for the Private Sector at the U.S.

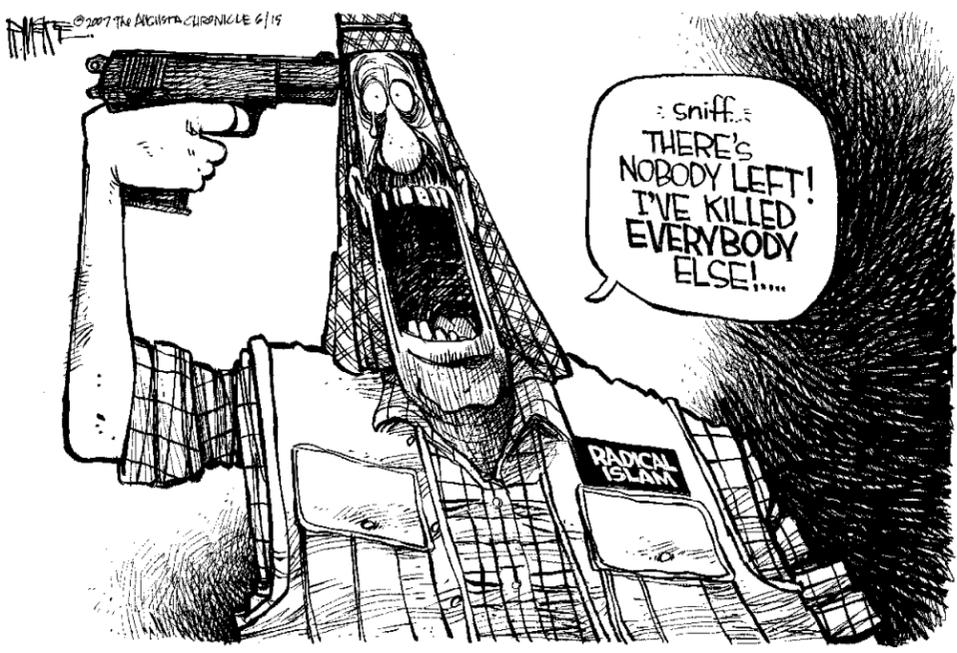
Department of Homeland Security. Martinez-Fonts works regularly with Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. I also organized a meeting with Congressman John Conyers, the Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, which is the primary committee of jurisdiction for immigration reform legislation in the U.S. House. Due to the votes on the floor of the House, which occurred at the scheduled time of their meeting, Task Force members met with high-ranking committee staff who Chairman Conyers selected for the meeting.

In addition to facilitating these meetings, I was able to assist the Task Force in expressing its message to the public. I arranged a press conference with the Task Force and my colleagues, Rep. Raúl Grijalva of Arizona, Rep. Gabrielle Giffords of Arizona, and Rep. Luis Guterrez of Illinois, which was successful in relaying the

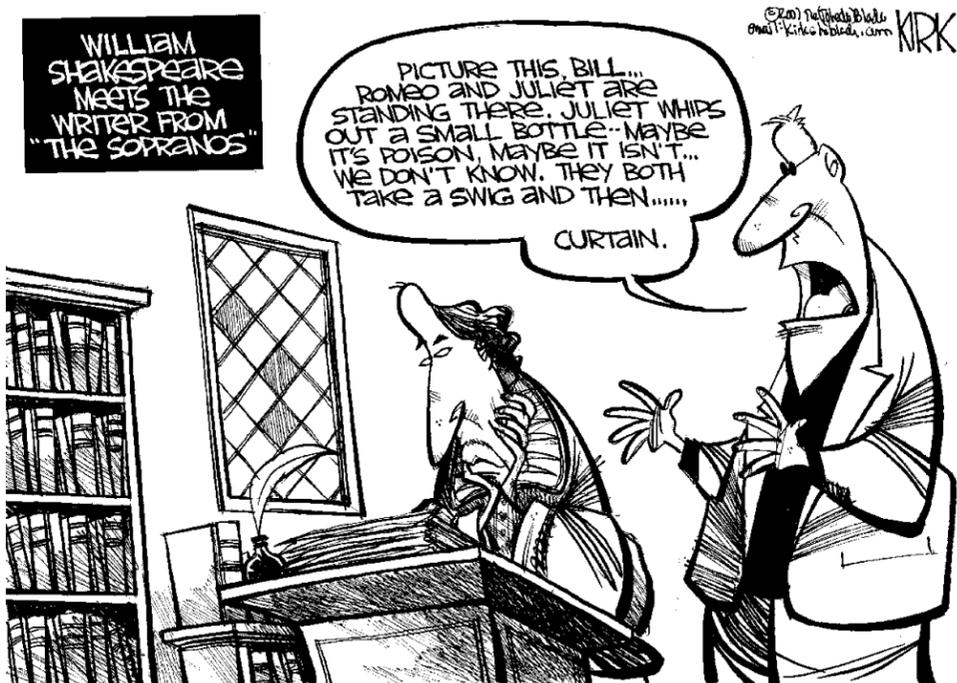
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"...THEY COULD JUST ENFORCE EXISTING IMMIGRATION LAWS, BUT I GUESS THAT'S ONE OF THOSE JOBS AMERICANS DON'T WANT TO DO!..."



WHEN PEACE FINALLY COMES TO THE MIDDLE EAST



WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE MEETS THE WRITER FROM "THE SOPRANOS"

KIRK

# Lillard Thompson, founding force in Horizon, dies at 82

HORIZON — Lillard Stuart Thompson, 82, a long time resident and a founding force of Horizon City, passed away gently on Friday, June 22, 2007 at his home.

He was born Feb. 23, 1925, in Denver, Colorado, the only child of Catherine Stuart Thompson and Lillard McKinley Thompson.

He was veteran of World War 11, having fought with the U.S. Army Infantry in Europe in 1944-45. A self-effacing man, he was proud of his service to his country but his family said he was not outspoken about it. He was awarded the Bronze Star.

He was educated at Eastern New Mexico University and the University of Colorado after the War. He spent the first half of his life as an educator, teaching economics, coaching, and serving as athletic director, but found his real calling as a principal and coach.

In his career as an educator, he taught in Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico and in Alpine and Fabens, Texas. After retiring from the public schools in 1989, he taught courses at Park College at Fort Bliss.

A bachelor into his late forties, he believed that he would never marry. Then he met Era Sharpley Sprecher, a typing teacher just down the hall. They were married May 31,

1972. During Era's final illness in 2005, Lillard was right at her side. They were married 33 years.

Lillard led an active and busy life in Horizon City. He was influential in the incorporation of the municipality in 1988 and was appointed to serve on council. He was elected mayor in 1995, and was again elected to council in 1998. He later served on the Planning and Zoning Committee contributed innumerable hours in other volunteer capacities to his chosen home town.

He most recently served on the Regional Municipal Utilities District Board of Directors, ending his life-long public service only when forced by injuries suffered in a automobile accident in May 2006. He was a member of St. Brendan's Episcopal Church

Thompson is survived by son Robert H. Sprecher II and his wife Sharon, of Denver, Colorado; and daughter Sara Sprecher and life partner, Carolyn Anderson, of Dallas, Texas.

A memorial service celebrating his life was held June 25 at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in El Paso. The family requested that in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to Clinica Guadalupana near Horizon City, or St. Brendan's Episcopal Church.

## View from here By Bill Peacock and Margo Thorning

### Price-gouging laws will only cause more pain at the pump

With the summer travel season underway and Texas consumers watching the cost of filling up their gas tanks steadily increase, they may believe that oil companies are getting rich at their expense. This is an understandable but common misconception whenever prices seem to inflate inexplicably.

Unfortunately, some federal policymakers are all too eager to seize on this frustration and propose so-called solutions like price controls to stop so-called "price gouging." Phrases like these should raise red flags, because no matter how well-intentioned or politically motivated, history and basic economics teach us that price caps ultimately produce harsh unintended consequences, including supply shortages and unnecessary economic hardships for consumers.

Anyone who remembers the long lines, gas shortages and inflation from the 1970's price controls on gasoline knows that this is not a legacy to fall back on.

Despite previous lessons learned and the overwhelming evidence that price controls simply do not work, Congress is again looking to shelve the requisite leadership needed to imple-

ment sound energy policies based on supply and demand. Rather than helping to increase domestic refining capacity and reduce our dependence on foreign oil, they instead have chosen a purely political strategy void of economic fundamentals.

Of course, there is no sense in taking the hard road to address increasing gas prices or the nation's broader energy challenges when pointing fingers is so much easier.

Consumers should note that while such lawmakers seem preoccupied in their misguided pursuit to label "culprits" in the court of public opinion, they might ask their elected officials to look in the mirror. On average, American consumers already pay 42 cents per gallon in combined federal and state taxes on gasoline.

Spikes in fuel prices during the devastating 2005 hurricane season have been the primary motivation for "price gouging" legislation and investigations, including here in Texas. Suspicions hold that producers were profiting from tragedy, but the economic reality is that

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Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore June 27, 1918: Hortense Ward becomes the FIRST woman to register to vote in Harris County...she was also the FIRST woman admitted to the bar in 1910.



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

**SERVING UP BENEFIT — CAFE Scholarship recipients, shown seated from left are Mayra Navarrette, Anja Kruger, Julio Martinez, Christina Cereceres, Tahlia Leyva, Veronica Howell, Daisy Guerrero, Mayra Contreras, Maria Luisa Vasquez; and standing, from left, are Bernny Apodaca, Erik Pavia, Richard Sapien, Carlos Carrasco, Oscar Trillo, Francisco Ambriz.**

## Canutillo Alumni Foundation awards scholarships

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Canutillo Alumni Foundation for Education (CAFE) awarded \$12,500 in scholarships to Canutillo High School Class of 2007 during its graduation ceremony held in May.

During the ceremony, Armando Rodriguez, CAFE vice-president, announced the selection of nine graduates who will receive \$1,000 each and another seven graduates who will receive \$500 each.

This year's CAFE scholarship recipients are: Carlos Carrasco, Marcus Maldonado, Oscar Trillo, Richard Sapien, Anja Kruger, Mayra Contreras, Erik Pavia, Mayra Navarrette, Bernny Apodaca, Maria Luisa

Vasquez, Violetta Duran, Tahlia Leyva, Christina Cereceres, Francisco Ambriz, Julio Martinez, and Veronica Howell.

"We started with plans to award nine \$1,000 scholarships only, but after the scholarship committee reviewed the students' CAFE scholarship applications, we decided to add seven \$500 scholarships to help more students," said Rodriguez.

CAFE is a non-profit foundation initiated in 2003 by CHS alumni to establish a scholarship fund that would assist CHS students with their post-secondary education expenses. The group has awarded more than \$30,000 in scholarships since its inception.

Major funding for CAFE scholarships is raised through its annual golf tournament. For more information about CAFE, call 877-7482.

## Pump

From Page 3

fluctuations in fuel prices serve as basic signals to producers to either increase or decrease supplies. This holds true both in times of crisis and normal operations. Because of the massive damage that occurred in the Gulf Coast, where 30 percent of production was estimated to be knocked offline, energy supply and distribution was severely interrupted throughout the nation. In response, gasoline prices rose to most efficiently allocate the available supplies to the areas they were most needed.

Following these hurricanes, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) investigated allegations of price manipulations, but found no evidence of widespread "price gouging." In fact, over the last several decades, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the FTC both have investigated numerous instances of re-

gional price spikes. The conclusions have been the same: gasoline price increases were due to basic supply and demand economics and that price variances corresponded directly to available supplies.

Yet, had "price gouging" legislation now being supported in Congress been in place during Hurricanes Rita and Katrina, the ultimate result would have been higher costs for consumers and tighter supply. A recent American Council for Capital Formation (ACCF) economic study reviewed investigations of past gasoline price increases. In every case, the price increases were due to the operation of supply and demand and not from withholding supplies.

The study also estimated costs associated with price controls as defined under current legislative proposals. Had they been implemented during the supply disruptions caused by Katrina and Rita that occurred between September and October 2005, the cost would have totaled \$1.9 billion. Price controls would have made

shortages worse by reducing supplies available to consumers. Imposing criminal charges for price increases would discourage suppliers from seeking replacement supplies which might cost more — therefore limiting consumers' access to gasoline supply. Further, the very expectation of price controls would tend to discourage refinery investment, resulting in tighter capacity at all times.

No one likes to pay more at the pump. Yet, while such misguided and ineffective "price-gouging" laws may play well for politicians in the short-term, they will ultimately harm the very consumers they are purportedly meant to protect.

Bill Peacock is Director for the Center for Economic Freedom with the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a non-profit, free-market research institute based in Austin. Dr. Margo Thorning is Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the American Council for Capital Formation ([www.accf.org](http://www.accf.org)).

## Socorro campus will target at-risk students

By Irma Flores  
Special to the Courier

For at-risk students wanting to earn a high school diploma Socorro Independent School District is offering a new option. For the 2007-08 school year, the Socorro ISD Options High School (SOHS), 12380 Pine Springs, will open its doors on July 19, 2007 to help students earn a diploma in an innovative educational program.

Options High School assists at-risk and drop out students in earning high school credits in a non-traditional setting by offering traditional courses such as English, Math, History and Economics in a self-paced learning environment. Evening classes will be offered based on student demand. To be eligible for this school, potential students must:

- Be at least 16 years of age and less than 21 years of age on or after September 1st;
- Be eligible for enrollment at an SISD campus; and
- May have previously dropped out of school.

"We will have individual instruction plans for each student based on their needs," says Ramon Aguilar, Options High School Administrator. "We will have a computer based program, a self-paced module and teacher instruction for students who need more involvement."

Students will also have to complete a SOHS application, and schedule and attend an entrance interview with parents. The school is also geared to help students who need to work and cannot complete school coursework under the traditional school schedule. Eligibility is extended to students who are homeless students, teen parents, pregnant or have a parent who is incarcerated or have passed way.

"This school offers a flexible for students who want to be in school but are working 8 to 5 jobs to support their families," says Aguilar. "The students who come to this school are serious about getting their diploma."

The school will enroll 150 students for the upcoming school year and house 42 classrooms and 10 labs. For more information, please call 937-0000 or 860-7206.

## Keeping a healthy home means keeping out unwanted guests

By Samantha Donaldson  
Special to the Courier

You may have some uninvited guests creeping around your home, and they're not your relatives. They're allergens — dust mites, animal dander, and molds that reduce the quality of the air in your home and can harm your family's health.

Find out how to protect your home from these unwanted visitors with the new Healthy Home package. This free package is filled with helpful publications from the Environmental Protection Agency, the FDA Office of Women's Health, and The Soap and Detergent Association.

Start by conducting a room-by-room assessment of your home using the handy checklist in this package. Be on the look out for unusual and noticeable odors, excessive moisture or condensation, vapors that could be harmful, and dust that could be from asbestos or lead. These signs are good indicators that the air in your home may be unhealthy. Moisture in your kitchen, bathrooms, and laundry room, for instance, encourages the growth of mold and mildew and attracts cockroaches and dust mites.

And for millions of Americans, exposure to these household irritants triggers their allergies. An allergy is your body's adverse reaction to a substance that doesn't bother other people. Symptoms include watery

eyes, runny nose, sneezing, nasal congestion, and coughing. Indoor allergens also play a significant role in causing asthma attacks. Learn more about asthma, including how to keep it under control, with this informative package.

Although indoor allergens are a common problem, there are things you can do to keep your home healthy. One of the most effective and least expensive ways is to clean as often as possible. Wash bedding, such as sheets, bedcovers, and blankets, once a week in hot water. Fix water problems and leaks and regularly clean humidifiers and air conditioners. Store food in tightly sealed containers. And clean up spills and crumbs on kitchen counter-tops and floors immediately.

Get rid of unwanted, pesky visitors by ordering the Healthy Home package today. There are three easy ways to get your free publications: Send your name and address to Healthy Home, Pueblo, Colorado 81009 or you can visit [www.pueblo.gsa.gov/rc/n56healthyhome.htm](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov/rc/n56healthyhome.htm) to place your order online or to read or print these and hundreds of other Federal publications for free. Or you can call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256, weekdays 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time and ask for the Healthy Home package. Get even more information and take advantage of online government services resources at [www.FirstGov.gov](http://www.FirstGov.gov) and [www.Espanol.gov](http://www.Espanol.gov).

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— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

**REPEAT AFTER ME — Notary Public Lupe Lujan oversees the swearing in of SISD Board of Trustees members George Salas and Karen Blaine.**

## Socorro ISD Trustees take oath, officers voted in

By Irma Flores  
Special to the Courier

The Socorro Independent School District Board of Trustees voted in new officers during a special meeting held on June 5 at the District Service Center. Three Board members were also sworn in after winning their election races in May.

Karen Blaine, Guillermo Gandara, and George Salas were sworn in at the start of the meeting. Following the swearing in ceremony, the Board of Trustees unanimously elected the Board President, Vice President and Secretary.

“It was good to see a unanimous vote for all three officer positions,” says Blaine who will serve her first full term on the board. “I’m very pleased that the constituents of my district wanted me to continue the work I’m doing for them.”

“It feels good that the people re-elected me because it shows I’m doing a good job,” says Gandara who will serve his third term.

“The board is moving in the right

direction,” says Salas who was re-elected to serve another 3-year term. “We have developed a good relationship and I am confident in the district’s leadership.”

Serving the Socorro ISD as new Board President is Charles Garcia, serving as Vice-President is Karen



G. Gandara

Blaine and serving as Secretary is Barbara Perez-Pena. The remaining four board members are Trustees Craig A. Patton, Guillermo Gandara, Raymond Rodriguez and George Salas.

“I’m very honored to get the 7-0 vote from the board,” says Garcia, SISD Board of Trustees President. “It shows we are on solid ground and we are going to work together.”

“It’s a vote of confidence on behalf of my colleagues,” Perez-Pena who elected as secretary and serving her 14th year on the SISD board.

### Briefs

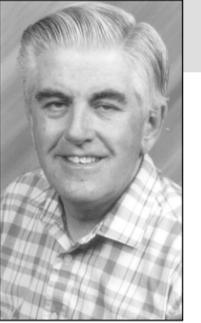
From Page 1

percent of all private sector workers and provide nearly 45 percent of the nations’ payroll, according to the Small Business Administration’s Office of Advocacy. But 40 percent of small businesses never reopen after a disaster. The Institute for Economic Development’s San Antonio Small Business Development Center, El Paso Community College Small Business Development Center and the El Paso Mayor’s Office hopes to alter those odds by hosting a conference on July 30, to assist small businesses in the development of emergency preparedness business continuity plans. “The Workplace Emergency Preparedness for Small Business Conference” will be held at the Embassy Suites, 6100 Gateway East, El Paso, TX (79905) 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration and Breakfast will begin at 7:00 a.m. The cost for attending is \$75. Breakfast, lunch and breaks included along with the book “Contingency Planning

and Disaster Recovery; A Small business Guide” Co-Authored by Donna Childs; a Manhattan small business owner whose business did survive after the 9-11 attacks, and credits her risk management assessment and prior contingency planning as the keys to why she was able to return her Wall Street business to operational capacity in less than a week. The book normally retails for \$60.00. Participants will also receive an Emergency Preparedness CD. The conference’s featured speaker’s are Mayor Cook and Deputy Chief Don Berger, Emergency Management Coordinator for the city of El Paso. Keynote Speakers at Lunch will be Chief Grijalva, Police Chief for El Paso Community College and Peg Callahan; Director of the Human Capital Program of University of Texas, San Antonio. Callahan will be leading a panel discussion with small business owners in El Paso who survived the recent flood.

■ Career Centers of Texas – El Paso will host a combined health and career fair open to the general community on Friday July 6, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Government highlights By Don Woodyard



*Highlights of the June meetings of the Canutillo Independent School District, San Elizario Independent School District and the Town of Clint.*

### Canutillo ISD: June 12

Reporting on the results of recent TAKS scores, Dr. James Steinhauser, executive director for school improvement, had good news for the board. All campuses’ ratings were acceptable.

Alfredo Vasquez, public information officer, gave a breakdown on the overall, cumulative TAKS test scores for third- and fifth-graders. They represented only a slight change from last year. This is after administering the test twice. The third testing is this week.

The exit tests for high school students will be held July 11-13.

Scores are:

- Reading/English Language Arts: 84 percent, an increase of two over last year.
- Writing: 91 percent, same as last year.
- Social Studies: 80 percent, up two points from last year.
- Science: 56 percent, same as last year.

Tony Reza, executive director for business services, updated the board on the district’s preliminary budget which stands at more than \$43 million for the coming school year. This is an increase of approximately \$3 million.

Highlighting Reza’s report, Vasquez said the state legislature mandated a cutback in the tax rate from \$1.37 per \$100 property valuation to \$1.00. At the same time, the state also approved an increase of four cents to \$1.04. This represents an additional \$1.13 million in income.

Preliminary property valuations for the school district topped \$1 billion by \$67 million. After the appeals process, it is estimated that property valuations will be in the \$992 million range.

The board of trustees honored the valedictorian and salutatorian for Canutillo High’s Class of 2007. They are valedictorian Carlos Carrasco and salutatorian Erik Pavia.

Also recognized for her achievement was teacher Connie Trujillo, who was named 2007 Teacher of the Year by the South West Association of Bilingual Educators.

### Town of Clint: June 12

Mayor Dale Reinhardt reported that he is working with the Socorro City Council to establish more easily and more clearly identifiable boundaries between the two communities. This he explained, deals with the ETJ, extra-territorial jurisdiction of the municipalities. The purpose is to find common landmarks, such as drainage ditches, to identify boundaries—and not go by a red line on a map.

Reinhardt said Tuesday that he’d be presenting a boundary plan to his council at their July 10th meeting for their approval. He would then present it to the Socorro City Council.

He also reported on efforts to clean up the Clint cemetery and make it more presentable—out of respect to those who are buried there.

The council also approved Jaime Alvarado as the town’s attorney.

Three council members were sworn in. They are Linda Candelaria, Richard Sepulveda and Jesus Oropeza.

### San Elizario ISD: June 13

George Luevano, the district’s support services coordinator, updated trustees on construction projects.

He reported that work on the \$3.1 million cafeteria/gym project at Alarcon Elementary is 40 percent complete. Unexpected delays were caused by unearthing old septic systems and retention tanks. It has pushed back the completion date to mid- or late October of this year.

At Alarcon, the old cafeteria will be the new gym. The old kitchen will be training for food services personnel.

The work on the new 18-room classroom wing and library at Garcia-Enriquez Middle School, he said, is 60 percent complete. It is expected to be completed by mid-September. The cost is \$5.2 million.

Judge Ruben Lujan swore in Irene Jacquez to her new term on the board of trustees.

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### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### Village of Vinton, Texas Texas Community Development Block Grant Program

The Village of Vinton will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on July 5, 2007, at Village of Vinton City Hall in regard to the submission of a **Disaster Relief Fund** application to the Office of Rural Community Affairs for a Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (TCDBG) grant. The purpose of this meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to discuss the Citizen Participation Plan, to obtain citizen comments on the development of a Disaster Relief application to address damages caused by August 2006 floods, and inform the citizens of TCDBG funding available, all eligible TCDBG activities, and the use of past TCDBG funds. The City encourages citizens to participate in the development of this TCDBG application 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 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.

Madeleine Praino, Mayor  
Village of Vinton, Texas

Published:  
06/28/07

# Theus leaves NMSU for the bright lights of the NBA

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

Is anyone out there really surprised that former NMSU coach Reggie Theus left Las Cruces for the millions of dollars and unlimited prestige the NBA can offer?

When it was announced that Theus was named the new coach of the Sacramento Kings

last week, I was a little disappointed because I was looking forward to his return to El Paso next season.

If you'll remember, it was Theus who spent more of his time arguing with the El Paso fans than coaching his team when the more talented Aggies outlasted UTEP last season.

Theus has never been one to shy away from a fight, or a camera, and he let everyone know after the game that he was upset with the an-

tics of some of the El Paso fans and embarrassed that the locals didn't even fill the Don Haskins Center for the I-10 rivalry.

He was right about the low attendance, but he showed a lack of class and restraint by pointing his finger at the crowd and shouting at the fans.

Although his ego sometimes turned people off, there's no doubt that he did a remarkable job bringing winning and respect back to the Aggies' basketball program.

The Aggies were just 6-24 prior to his arrival. Last season they were 25-9 and played in the NCAA Tournament.

His flash and flare was made for the bright lights of the NBA. He loves the camera and the camera loves him. He'll be right at home.

But it's very difficult for El Pasoans to feel sorry for NMSU after what the Miners have gone through losing Billy Gillispie and Doc Sadler.

Seems UTEP and NMSU have seen the last of the Don Haskins and Lou Henson kind of loyalty. The sad fact is that the Miners and the Aggies are programs great young coaches will come to — on their way to some place better.

The Miners seem to be headed in the right direction under Tony Barbee, and the Aggies will find some bright young coach to replace Theus.

Only problem is, as soon as they flourish, both coaches will be gone in an instant — to bigger and better things.

I mean. However, it did wonders for his overall muscle mass.

So while everyone in the country knows what Giambi was talking about, what are he and Mitchell going to talk about? Is he expecting Giambi to do his best Joseph McCarthy impression and name names? Is Giambi going to pay a hefty price if he doesn't name names?

All these questions should be answered after the two gentlemen speak. But in my humble estimation, absolutely nothing substantial is going to come out of this meeting.

There is too much time between now and then.

Lawyers, coaches, opposing players, teammates and family members are going to talk to Giambi and remind him about the consequences of incriminating himself and other players.

And of course everyone knows that the biggest fish they want to catch, figuratively and literally, is Barry Bonds, who is edging ever closer to Hank Aaron's all-time home run mark.

But I have a feeling that the only way the real truth will ever come out is when these players are brought before Congress to testify under oath.

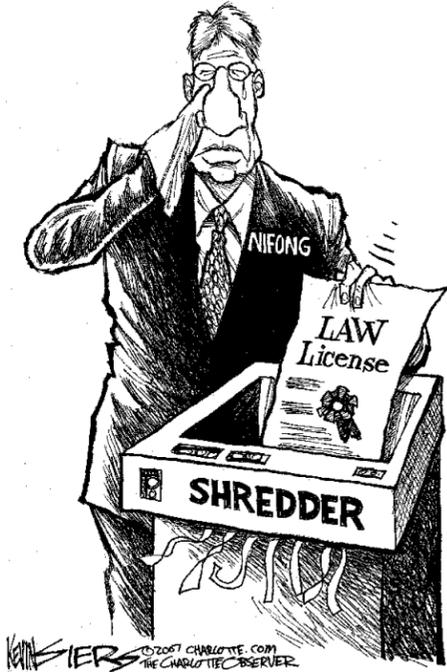
Until then, all this George Mitchell stuff is window dressing.

It sounds great, it looks like something is being done, but like Rosie O'Donnell — it's all big talk with nothing substantial behind it.

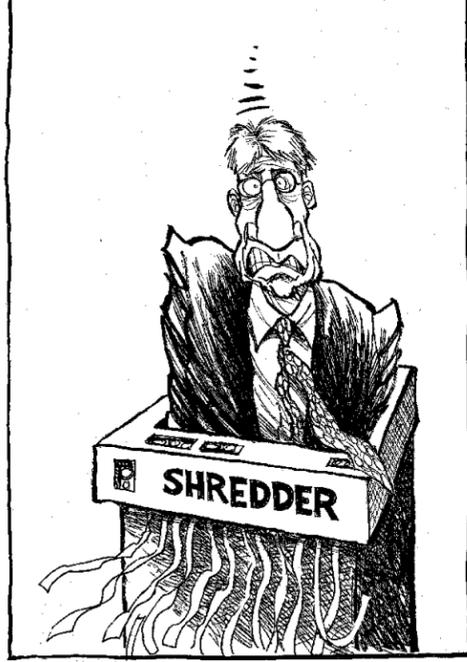
It's like when I cook something for my kids — it looks pretty impressive from a distance, but the taste never quite lives up to the hype.

Thankfully, there's Pizza Hut.

## RESOLUTION:



## JUSTICE:



## Classified Ads

### LEGAL

#### 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:

#### TUESDAY, JULY 03, 2007

#### ATHLETIC AND STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

CSP NO.199-0703-7119  
ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 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-06/28/07

#### 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:

#### FRIDAY, JULY 06, 2007

PROPERTY VALUE STUDY APPEAL SERVICES  
RFP NO.199-0706-7106  
ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

MEDIA RETRIEVAL FOR CAMPUSES  
CSP NO.199-0706-7120  
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-06/28/07

#### SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

lowing times:

#### MONDAY, JULY 09, 2007

COLLEGE PREPARATORY MATERIALS  
CSP NO.199-0709-7100  
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-06/28/07

#### 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 - 2B4HB21W4HKK312079, 1987 Dodge Ram van, brown, Mexico license 736 SBL6. WTCC-06/28/07

#### BUSINESS RENTAL

20 'X45' space for

rent. \$250/month, 852-9371, Horizon Self Storage. 8/30

### JOBS

#### Village of Vinton

#### Job Announcement for Deputy Clerk

The Village of Vinton, Texas has an immediate opening for a Full-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 timer per week. The Deputy Clerks will also answer phones, cashier, prepare correspondence and assist with other department functions. Must have 2-plus years of college courses pertaining to business administration or 4-plus years municipal experience. Salary commensurate with experience.

Deadline: July 6, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. Contact: Charlie@dmDickason, (915) 532-9400. The Village of Vinton is an Equal Opportunity Employer. WTCC - 6/28/07

Star Cutz solicita estilista tiempo completo pago por comision. Con licencia y experiencia.

Immediate part-time opening for experienced small engine repair person. Applications available at Ace Hardware located at 117 N. Fabens Street in Fabens, Texas. (915) 764-2239.

#### DOCUMENT ASSISTANCE

Divorce documents prepared, includes petition, waiver, final decree. Covers children and property. \$275. (915) 851-1425.

#### REAL ESTATE

For Sale: Former Justice Court Building, 12708 Alameda in Clint, TX. Call Frank Macias, 851-2007/588-0968.

#### RENTAL PROPERTY

1 bedroom, Clint area, fenced yard. 383-1152.

### 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.

### STORAGE

10'X20' space for rent. \$65/month. 852-9371, Horizon Self Storage.

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# 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



# There's no mystery about this meat

By Don Flood

A recent news story told how Dutch scientists were experimenting with growing meat in a laboratory.

I don't know what the big deal is. Our college cafeteria ladies produced a meat-like substance back in the mid-1970s.

Discussing exactly what kind of meat it was constituted a large portion of our intellectual life at college.

Some said it was beef; some said it was a pork product of some kind. Still others argued the college chefs were displaying their culinary skills with horsemeat.

Looking back, however, I'm reasonably certain the college had perfected the art of growing its own brand of "mystery meat."

While today's scientists are decades behind our cafeteria ladies, I thought the experiments were harmless enough — until I read the following:

"Then they stimulate the cells to develop, give them nutrients and exercise them with electric current to build bulk."

Are they out of their minds? If you run an electric current through tissue to make it grow, monsters develop. This is just basic science.

When I was growing up, we benefited from a well-rounded education that included a solid foundation in the science and history of Western Civilization.

This meant learning not only about Batman and Superman, but also Dracula and Frankenstein and, most important, disembodied brains.

Sitting in a laboratory tank with electrodes attached to them, disembodied brains look harmless enough. Nothing could be further from the truth.

As documented in horror movies, they quickly acquire the abil-

ity to force others to do their will. Unfortunately, disembodied brains rarely lean toward the happy-go-lucky type.

If they simply willed someone to take up juggling, there'd be no harm done. But instead of looking on the bright side — they don't have to cut the grass, for example

— disembodied brains often retain a bitter outlook on life, possibly because they wind up losing their girlfriend, and meeting a new one is always hard, even with online dating services. (Magazine articles often say sex appeal is all in the mind. Don't believe it. Even an out-of-shape body is better than no body.)

Sooner or later, disembodied brains always turn to murder.

Experimental meat will prove to be just as dangerous, and not just because it makes for a lousy casserole.

Here's what will happen. It's quarter to five, and the scientists move the clocks up so they can head out early for Happy Hour.

Back in the lab, the meat sits there, pulsing to the electric shocks. Suddenly, the spooky music begins.

Spooky music, for reasons not completely understood (except by myself, but I don't feel like explaining it), signals the electrified tissue that it's time to turn into a monster.

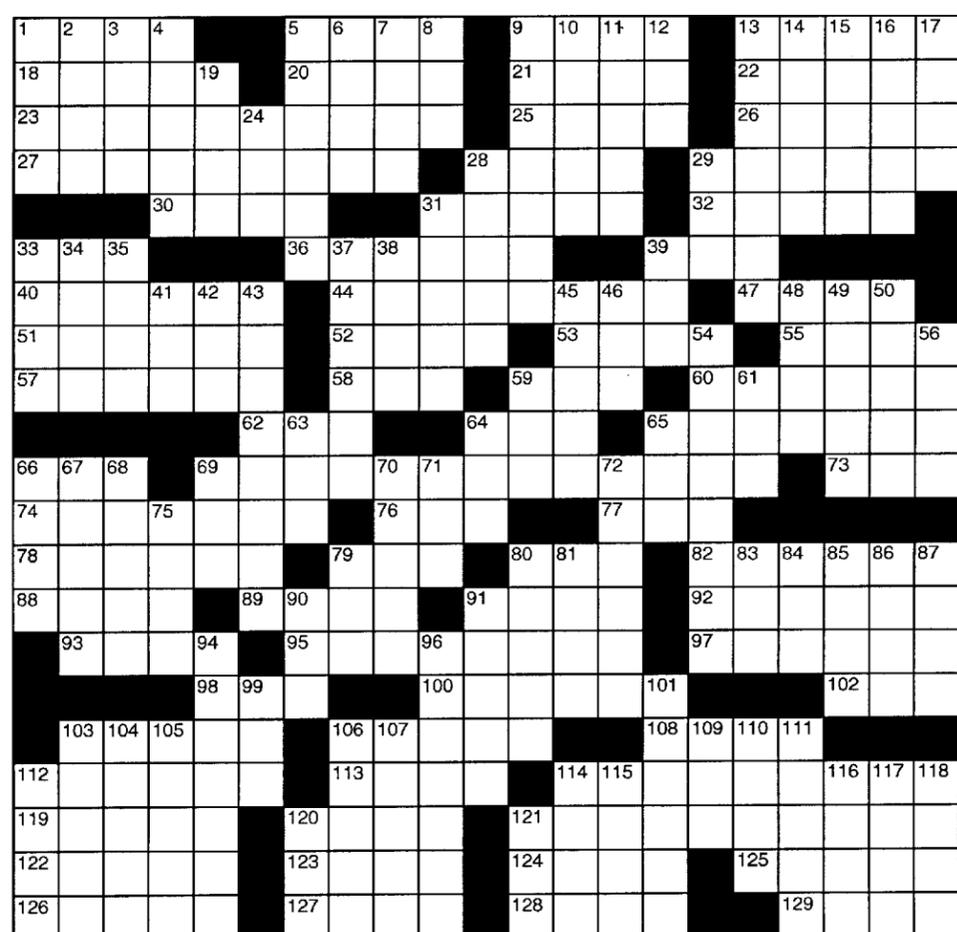
Overnight, it grows and grows, and next morning the returning scientists get eaten — which is only fair — but soon the monster escapes and begins destroying nearby towns. It never ends well.

The moral: If you want to create monsters that will destroy your city, by all means continue your insane experiments. If you want the secret to mystery meat, check out the college cafeteria.

(c) 2007 King Features Synd., Inc.

# King Super Crossword

- WHEREABOUTS**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Winning
  - 6 In the know
  - 11 Ingot
  - 14 Nursery furniture
  - 18 Hook's mate
  - 20 Corday's prey
  - 21 Flamenco dancer's shout
  - 22 Mandlikova of tennis
  - 23 "Sunrise Sunset" musical
  - 26 Writer Hunter
  - 27 Southern constellation
  - 28 New Mexico resort
  - 29 Med. test
  - 30 Statistical focus
  - 31 Unruffle
  - 32 Reposes
  - 36 Michael of "Little Voice"
  - 37 Noxious atmosphere
  - 39 Dock
  - 40 Unburdens oneself
  - 42 Ostentation
  - 43 Alistair MacLean bestseller
  - 48 On the \_ (defenseless)
  - 50 Soft cheese
  - 51 Schoenberg's "Moses und \_"
  - 52 \_Magnon
- DOWN**
- 1 \_ Romeo
  - 2 It grows on you
  - 3 Snorri's stories
  - 4 Count up
  - 5 Corinthian consonants
  - 6 " \_ & Andrew" ('93 film)
  - 7 Pallid
  - 8 Cunning
  - 9 Stadium shout
  - 10 Nice season
  - 11 Where to find romance
  - 12 Easy as falling off \_
  - 13 Part pugilists
  - 14 '66 Association hit
  - 15 Glossy black
  - 16 Pointless
  - 17 Simple ring
  - 19 Domain
  - 24 Downey of
- ACROSS**
- 53 Benjamin of The Cars
  - 54 "Salome" character
  - 56 Elbows
  - 58 Implied
  - 60 Like a bairn
  - 61 Persia, today
  - 62 Augur
  - 63 Stratas or Stich-Randall
  - 64 Hitchcock opus
  - 69 Newspaper circular
  - 71 Deride
  - 72 Starting at
  - 73 Gumshoe
  - 76 DIRTIES
  - 77 Impose
  - 79 Propeller part
  - 80 Actress Thurman
  - 81 Part of USNA
  - 82 Small business-man?
  - 83 Fluctuate
  - 84 Dais covering
  - 86 Kiddie-lit classic
  - 91 Envelope abbr.
  - 92 \_ apso
  - 93 Neighbor of Saudi Arabia
  - 94 Rubble or Fife
  - 97 Bobbin
  - 99 Kyoto companion
  - 101 Jai \_
  - 102 Thought-provoking
  - 103 Our omega
- DOWN**
- 104 Sacred image
  - 105 Air-quality org.
  - 108 Hasty
  - 109 Old folk song
  - 115 Kitchen addition?
  - 116 Clay, later
  - 117 Pale purple
  - 118 Combat mission
  - 119 Carries out
  - 120 Regret
  - 121 Grind one's teeth
  - 122 Mike of "Austin Powers"
  - 25 Sgt.
  - 30 Launder powder
  - 31 Promontory
  - 32 Cuttlefish kin
  - 33 Velez of "Mexican Spitfire"
  - 34 "Annabel Lee" monogram
  - 35 Pupil's place
  - 36 Tribe
  - 37 Opera's Grace
  - 38 Striking
  - 41 Cain's nephew
  - 42 Freighter front
  - 43 Pitchfork part
  - 44 Spoken for
  - 45 Stress
  - 46 Author Murdoch
  - 47 " \_ creature was stirring..."
  - 49 Prepares eggs
  - 50 Grain husk
  - 55 Part of Q.E.D.
  - 56 Emulated Elle
  - 57 Scent
  - 58 \_ up (united)
  - 59 "Exodus" protagonist
  - 62 Submachine gun
  - 63 Walked
  - 65 \_ Aviv
  - 66 VCR button
  - 67 Black piano key
  - 68 Hors d'oeuvre holder
  - 69 "It \_ Right" ('56 song)
  - 70 First zookeeper?
  - 74 TV's " \_ Nest"
  - 75 Columnist Herb
  - 77 Geometry term
  - 78 Williams' was glass
  - 79 Botswana bigwig
  - 82 List ender
  - 83 Asian title
  - 85 Asian title
  - 87 Duds
  - 88 Crow's-nest cry
  - 89 \_ polloi
  - 90 Printer's measures
  - 94 Cantata composer
  - 95 Fugard's "A Lesson from \_"
  - 96 Liberation
  - 97 Cold-war assn.
  - 98 Ersatz emerald
  - 100 Cartoon cry
  - 102 Hoarse horse?
  - 103 South African native
  - 104 Craving
  - 105 "Harper's Bazaar" artist
  - 106 Brace
  - 107 Blows away
  - 109 Gob
  - 110 Actress Taina
  - 111 Chinese principle
  - 112 Stevedores' grp.
  - 113 Advisory org.
  - 114 Go for it



Answer Page 6

## Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

### Declare your independence

# Social Security gives you options

This July fourth, you may find yourself inspired to declare your own independence by doing things yourself instead of depending on others.

We at Social Security applaud your efforts to take charge! With that in mind, we encourage you to consider our online services when you need to conduct business with

Social Security.

Whether you want to apply for retirement benefits, request a replacement Medicare card, report a change of address or direct deposit if you are currently receiving benefits, or take charge of your retirement planning, you can do it on our website.

Wait for an appointment? Not for an independent-thinking person like you! There's no need to wait or depend on another person when the power is at your fingertips. Just go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices/](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/onlineservices/) to get started.

Many of these services can be completed online without taking an-

other step. Some services require you to mail in documents and information. You may decide to print out what you've completed online and to take it into the office with the necessary documentation. Regardless, you'll be ahead of the pack by using our online services.

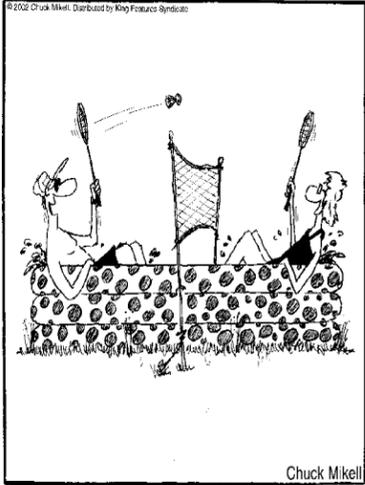
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*For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.*



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 "You've got to admit, dear, this is definitely the most reasonably priced swim and racket club in town ..."

## Canutillo High School names new coaches

**By Alfredo Vasquez**  
*Special to the Courier*

Canutillo High School officials announced recently that they have named varsity head coaches for Girls Volleyball, Boys Basketball, Girls Soccer, Tennis, and Wrestling for next school year.

Yesenia Alarcon was named Girls Varsity Volleyball head coach. She was Junior Varsity head coach and Varsity Assistant for El Paso High School, last year.

David Ortega was named Boys Basketball head coach. He was Junior Varsity head coach and Varsity

Assistant for Chapin High School.

Claudia Martinez was named Girls Soccer head coach. She was Junior Varsity Girls Soccer coach for Canutillo High School, last year. She is currently a teacher at Alderete Middle School in the Canutillo School District.

Hevila (Billy) Ramos was named Tennis coach. She is currently teaching Science at Canutillo High School. This is Canutillo High School's first year to offer Tennis.

Carlos Saucedo was named Wrestling coach. He was Assistant Varsity Wrestling coach for Riverside High School. Wrestling is also being offered for the first time this coming school year.

## Audits

From Page 1

tax audit by working closely with your accountant to ensure you are maintaining accurate records.

2. An IRS tax auditor will mail you the list of questions to respond to during the audit. Work closely with a tax accountant to prepare the answers to these questions. Gather all receipts for tax deductions, invoices for income, and any other documentation used when preparing the return. It will then be a matter of presenting your case to the IRS.

3. If the IRS insists on an in-person meeting, you have the right to send your tax accountant in your place. You don't need to be present, if you choose not to be.

4. Keep your answers simple and stick to the questions the IRS asked in your audit letter. Don't bring documents that are unrelated to those issues. That will just give the IRS an opportunity to start asking different questions. Sticking to the list keeps both you and the auditor focused on the main issues.

5. Keep detailed records of your conversations and correspondence with the IRS so it will be easy to review past communications if necessary.

## Reform

From Page 2

immediate importance of this issue and the opinions of the Task Force. I also invited some of the Task Force members to join me on the Barbara Perez Radio Show and had the pleasure of having others appear as guests on my television show, Congress on the Border, which will air on Time Warner cable channel 14.

Comprehensive immigration reform must remain a top priority for this Congress. We must strengthen border security, ensure earned legalization for those who qualify, and create a guest worker program with tough employer sanctions.

The opportunity still exists for immigration reform, and I continue to assert the need to pass these reforms as soon as possible. As a 26 year veteran of the U.S. Border Patrol and Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, I consider immigration reform a national security issue, and have advocated for reforms throughout my ten-year tenure on Capitol Hill.



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