



NEWSBRIEFS

Project Prom Dress

Clint Independent School District is collecting Prom Dresses, Party Dresses, Shoes and Accessories in good condition and ready to wear through March 31, 2008. The dresses and other items will be donated to Clint ISD students who plan to attend their High School Prom this year. Donations can be delivered to the Clint ISD Central Administration Office at 14521 Horizon Blvd. For more information or if you have questions, please call Hilda James or Diane Eveler at 926-4051.

Spaghetti

The Oz Glaze Senior Center, in Horizon City, will hold its annual Spaghetti Dinner, including salad and dessert, on Saturday, March 15, 2008 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Donations are welcome. Address: 13969 Veny Webb.

Medicare deadline

If you didn't sign up for Medicare Part B medical insurance when you first became eligible for Medicare, you now have an opportunity to apply — but time is running out. The deadline for applying is March 31, 2008. If you miss the deadline, you will have to wait until 2009 to apply. Medicare Part B covers some medical expenses not covered by Medicare Part A (hospital insurance), such as doctors' fees, outpatient hospital visits and other medical supplies and services that are not covered by Medicare Part A. When you first become eligible for hospital insurance (Part A), you have a seven-month period (your initial enrollment period) in which to sign up for medical insurance (Part B). After that, you have to pay a higher premium — unless you were covered through an employer's group health plan or a group health plan based on a spouse's employment. You are given another opportunity to enroll in Part B during the general enrollment period, from January 1 to March 31 of each year. But each 12-month period that you are eligible for Medicare Part B and do not sign up, the amount of your monthly premium increases by 10 percent. You can learn more about Medicare by reading our electronic booklet, Medicare (SSA Publication No. 05-10043) at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10043.html. You may also call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) to ask for a copy. Or visit the Medicare website at www.medicare.gov. You may also call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY 1-877-486-2048).

Kidnapping

Crime Stoppers of El Paso is helping the El Paso Police Department locate two offenders who kidnapped and raped a woman, making this the "Crime of the Week." On Sunday, Feb. 10 of this year, at approximately 3:15 a.m., a female

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For every minute you're angry, you lose 60 seconds of happiness.

— Quips & Quotes

Canutillo HS students compete in Skills USA



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

MEGABYTE MECHANICS — Canutillo High School Skills USA competitors Christina Dorado and Luis Rodriguez troubleshoot computer repairs during their trades and industry class. Rodriguez received a scholarship to attend Western Technical College while Dorado advances to compete at the state level after competing locally.

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier

Canutillo High School (CHS) students Christina Dorado, junior, placed second and Luis Rodriguez, senior, placed fourth, after recently competing in the Texas Skills USA Computer Maintenance competitions held at Western Technical College. More than 200 students from the surrounding area school districts participated in the Regional contests.

Dorado was one of only two girls that competed amongst a field of thirty participants in the Computer Maintenance Technology event, which consisted of a written A+ exam, and troubleshooting both the hardware and software of a computer and getting it to work.

Texas Skills USA is a non-profit youth organization that facilitates trade and industry education and enhances public school curricula. Skills USA 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 fourth year we have participated in the competition, and the second year our students have placed. Christina's second place finish gives her the opportunity to compete at the state level during the week of April 1 to 6, in Corpus Christi," said Jessica Arellano, CHS trades and industry teacher and Skills USA advisor. "For his fourth place finish, Luis was awarded a \$6,100 scholarship to attend Western Technical College," she added.

Socorro student accepted by People to People program

By Irma Flores
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — Socorro Middle School student Daniel Quijas has been accepted into the People to People World Leadership Forum. Quijas will join a select group of students in Washington D.C. on Sept. 29 through Oct. 5, 2008 to earn high school credit while studying leadership and exploring some of the United States' most prominent monuments and institutions.

"It's an amazing opportunity for me," said the 12-year-old 7th grader. "I look forward to going. This is something to help me keep my grades up and I can say I have done."

From Capitol Hill to the Smithsonian Institution, and from Colonial Williamsburg to the National Museum of American History, Quijas will examine the characteristics of American leadership during times of national challenge and prosperity. Forum delegates will also participate in small group discussions and exercises to experience first-hand how successful leaders develop strategies, make decisions, build consensus and foster change.

"This will be an experience Daniel will

never forget," said SISD Superintendent Dr. Sylvia P. Atkinson. "Working with students from across the country will not only help him with his studies, but will also encourage him to take a leadership role in his school and community."

Quijas was nominated by his English teacher Debra Rodriguez and accepted for the honor based on outstanding scholastic merit, civic involvement and leadership potential.



— Photo by Stacy Kendrick / SISD

Daniel Quijas

"She noticed he has leadership ability and thought he would be a good candidate for this program," said Daniel Quijas III, father and special education teacher at Socorro Middle School.

"It's great for middle school students to be exposed to this kind of program at a young age," said SISD Board President Charles E. Garcia. "These students are tomorrow's leaders and they need to learn how to collaborate and make decisions with a diverse group."

The program is coordinated by People to People Student Leader Programs to fulfill the vision President Dwight D. Eisenhower had for fostering world citizenship when he founded People to People during his presidency in 1956. For additional information, please visit www.wlfleaders.org.

Frank Macias students raise money for 'Pennies for Patients'

HORIZON CITY — In an effort to raise as much money as possible for the Pennies for Patients program, one second grade classroom sought out the help of a business. The fund-raising runs about three weeks beginning every year on Feb. 12, in honor of Abraham Lincoln, who is on the penny.

Arleen Beard's class from Frank Macias Elementary School discussed ways they could raise money to help the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Along with bringing in their own money by asking parents, neighbors, other relatives and friends, they decided to reach out to the community and contact a business for assistance. This would help them collect more money and help the campus reach its projected goal of \$3,000.

The students and Beard decided to talk to Telerx. Beard contacted a friend, Beth Santillan, and asked if Telerx would be interested in helping the classroom raise money for a worthwhile cause. Santillan graciously and eagerly agreed to do what she could.

The following day, Santillan met with the management at Telerx and they were eager to help. They quickly devised a plan to get the staff to participate. Their fund-raiser lasted for about three weeks and they raised \$1,265. It was a very successful campaign.

On March 7, 2008, some students from Beard's class, Beard, Principal Emi Gonzalez and Counselor Joe Solis visited Telerx to

See PENNIES, Page 4

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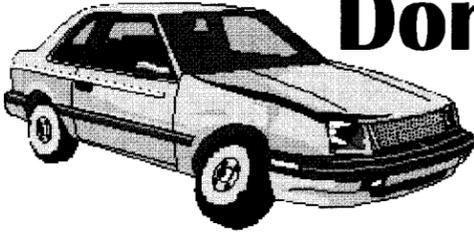
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PUBLISHED:
 Published each Thursday by Homesteader News, Inc. Appreciation to our many contributors. Office open Monday through Thursday.

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

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Member Texas Community Newspaper Association




Homesteader News, Inc.
 Est. 1973

Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

Medicare plans



Hola, mi gente. Most of you who keep abreast of current events are informed more about city and county government actions. State agencies generally do not receive as much press but they do impact our lives tremendously.

One of my priorities as your state representative has been to provide a conduit to those agencies for the constituents in District 75. As the elected state official, I get the ear of the agency directors who in turn help me assist you.

I am sure that many of you have seen articles in the newspaper or reports on television news broadcasts about Medicare Advantage Plans. My office talked to many seniors who were not happy with certain sales techniques, agents or plans. While the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), a federal agency, oversees the marketing of Medicare Advantage Plans, the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) has the responsibility of enforcing laws regard-

ing the sale of insurance policies. I have to give the Department a big kudo for service over and beyond the call of duty. The staff in Austin has attacked the problem with a fervor that they did not have before the influx of complaints to my office in the last half of 2007.

Prior to that time, the agency considered itself subservient to the policies of CMS. However, with the growing number of complaints and a national trend to changing the state role over Medicare Advantage Plans, Commissioner Mike Geeslin directed the TDI staff to thoroughly investigate every complaint that came from El Paso or any other location in Texas.

He also signed a new memorandum of understanding with CMS that would for the first time establish a database of complaints about agents and companies. This would be useful in future regulatory actions by TDI. Under his direction, the great staff in Austin could feel good about fulfilling its role as the advocate for senior victims of improper sales techniques.

The department will inform us, the legislators, about any possible legislation that it would like passed in order to enhance its ability to protect seniors and others who receive Medicare benefits. My office has already met with a TDI staffer during an El Paso visit just last week.

Before I end this column, let me be clear about one thing. It is not the intention of this office or of the TDI to stop the availability of Medicare Advantage Plans or to inhibit the ability of good agents who sell the product. We just want to make sure that the process of informing the clients includes a clear and complete disclosure of how the client will benefit or not benefit. Too often, the process is tilted to portraying the plans as wholly beneficial and better than any other plan. That is wrong!

I shall try my best to sponsor and pass legislation that protects our seniors when they consider a change to a Medicare Advantage Plan. Gracias, mi gente, and I remain your friend and public servant, Chente for la gente.

Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Economic stimulus



As you most likely know, the U.S. Labor Department recently reported that employers made their deepest employment cut in almost five years in the month of February. This net loss of 63,000 jobs is the biggest decline since March 2003. As small business owners, you know our economy is in a downswing and some small businesses have had to slow expansion and lessen investments.

The Economic Stimulus Act of 2008, a bill recently passed by Congress and signed into law by President Bush, is one step the federal government has taken to help get the economy back on track. This stimulus package will aid in preventing further recession and the small business sector of the economy will receive a significant boost. Consumers spending their tax rebates coupled with small business incentives built into the bill will help small business owners stay on track.

The Economic Stimulus Act directly helps small business in two

ways: it increases to \$250,000 the limit that businesses can deduct from capital expenditures from their annual income, and it gives companies an increased 50 percent deduction on new equipment that would otherwise simply depreciate over a long period of time. The business incentives, coupled with the increased consumer spending, will likely have positive impacts on our sagging economy.

These incentives will help small and local businesses expand, and increase short and long-term investments. Most importantly for El Pasoans and others around the country, more money in the hands of small business means an increased ability to hire more employees or at least reduces the risk of layoffs. Small businesses and individual consumers are, perhaps, the key components to our economy, so putting money back in their hands is the best way to pump life into the economy.

My website includes the following breakdown of tax relief for businesses:

Temporary Enhanced Small Business Expensing:

- In order to help small businesses quickly recover the cost of certain

capital expenses, small business taxpayers may elect to write-off the cost of these expenses in the year of acquisition instead of recovering these costs over time through depreciation.

- Until the end of 2010, small business taxpayers are allowed to write-off up to \$125,000 (indexed for inflation) of capital expenditures subject to a phase-out once capital expenditures exceed \$500,000 (indexed for inflation).

- The package would double the amount that small business taxpayers may write-off to \$250,000 for capital expenditures incurred in 2008 and would increase the phase-out threshold to \$800,000 in 2008.

Temporary Bonus Depreciation:

- The package would allow businesses to quickly recover the costs of capital expenditures made in 2008 by allowing these businesses to write-off fifty percent of the cost of depreciable property (e.g., equipment, tractors, computers) acquired in 2008.

- In subsequent years, businesses will continue to depreciate the remaining cost of depreciable property under the current law-depreciation schedule.

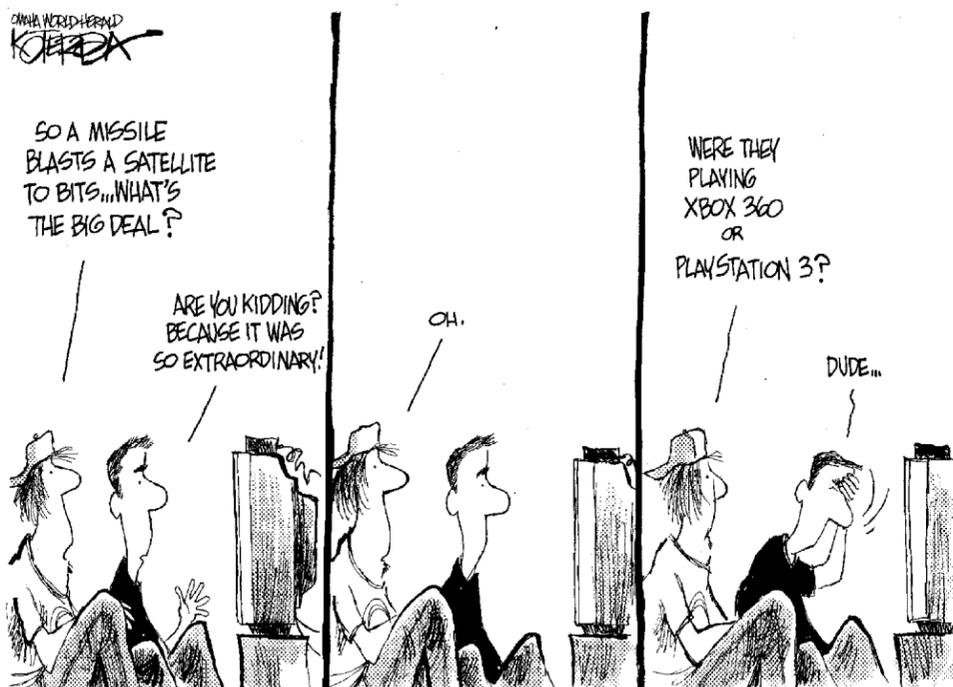
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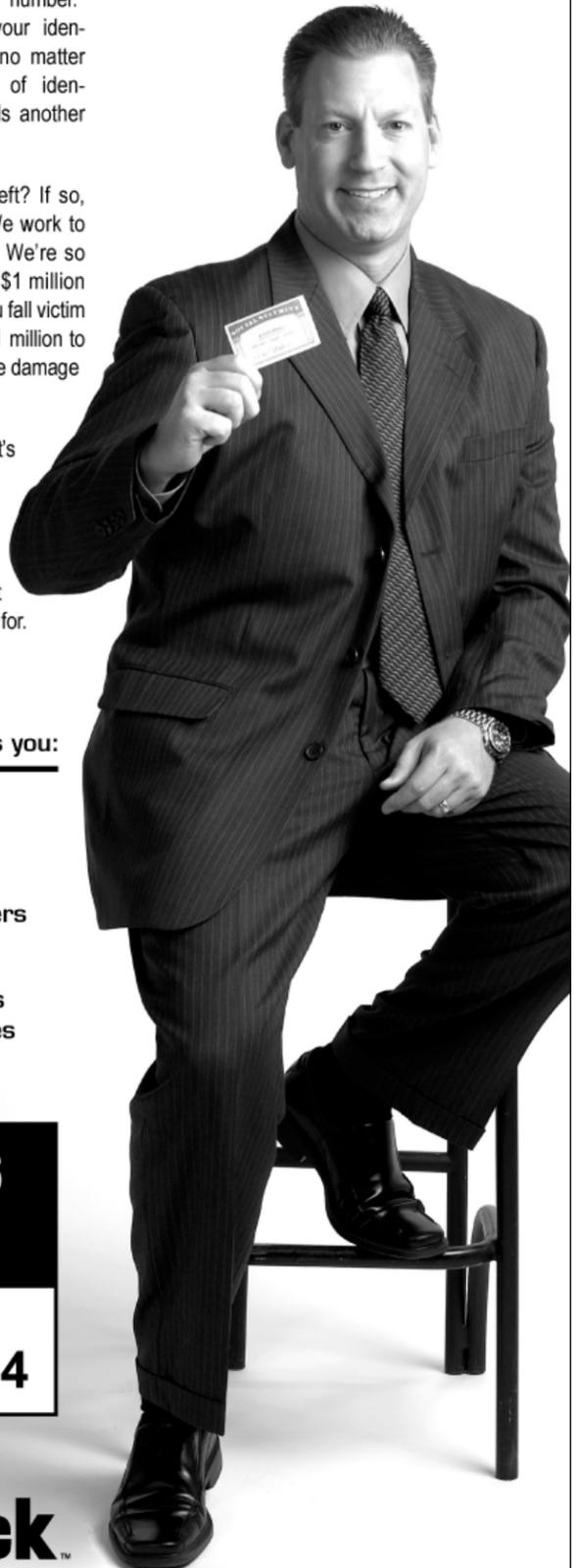
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PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF ANTHONY, TEXAS

FAIR HOUSING STATEMENT

The Town of Anthony hereby declares its support of fair housing practices. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the locality to bring about, through fair, orderly, and lawful procedures, the opportunity of each person to obtain housing without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental handicap, marital status, parenthood, or age.

It is further declared that such policy is established upon the recognition of the inalienable rights of each individual to obtain housing and further, that denial of such rights is detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the locality and constitutes an unjust denial or deprivation of such inalienable rights which is within the power and the proper responsibility of government to prevent.

The locality has a Fair Housing Policy that may be examined and copied by interested groups or individuals during office hours. The month of April has been proclaimed "Fair Housing Month"; copies of the official proclamation are available at the Anthony Town Hall between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

POLICY STATEMENT ESTABLISHING NONDISCRIMINATION BASED ON HANDICAPPED CONDITIONS

The Town of Anthony announces that it has adopted a policy of nondiscrimination based on handicapped conditions concerning access, participation, and benefit of programs and activities operated or conducted by the locality. This policy is in compliance with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended in 24 CFR, Part 8, "Non-discrimination Based on Handicap in Federally-Assisted Programs and Activities of HUD," dated June 2, 1988. Interested individuals or groups may obtain copies of this policy statement by calling the Town Clerk, who has been assigned to coordinate compliance with this policy and may be contacted at (915) 886-3944.

POLICY STATEMENT ON PROHIBITING THE USE OF EXCESSIVE FORCE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

The Town of Anthony announces that it has adopted a policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement personnel within its jurisdiction against an individual engaged in non-violent civil rights demonstrations. This policy is in compliance with Section 519 of Public Law 101-44, 1990, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act. Copies of this policy statement may be obtained by calling the Town Clerk at (915) 886-3944.

COMPLAINT AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

In order to comply with the requirements of the Texas Community Development Program (TCDP) and of 10 T.A.C. Section 178.1 and Section 178.2, the locality has citizen complaint procedures intended to provide a timely written response to all complaints made against its proposed or completed TCDP efforts. Responses to complaints will be made within no more than ten (10) working days. A copy of the complaint procedures can be obtained upon request at (915) 886-3944. The established complaint procedures are an element of the local Citizen Participation Plan, and meet the requirements of USHUD Section 504 (24 CFR) concerning nondiscrimination based on handicapped conditions.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT

The Town of Anthony is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action employer.

Art Franco
Mayor

West Texas County Courier
March 13, 2008



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

Madeleine Praino, Mayor of Vinton, read a Dr. Seuss book titled "Horton Hears a Who" to Childress Elementary School students during their Dr. Seuss Reading Day activities.

Bill Childress ES celebrates Read Across America

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier

Students, teachers and staff at Bill Childress Elementary School (BCE), in the Canutillo Independent School District (CISD) recently celebrated Dr. Seuss Reading Day during the National Education Association's (NEA) Read Across America Celebration.

The campus scheduled several activities to commemorate Dr. Seuss Books. BCE students participated in a poster contest requiring students to draw and color a character from the book, "Horton Hears a Who"; students, teachers and staff wore blue and red; and the school cafeteria served green eggs for breakfast and

green applesauce for lunch, students also learned the song, "Read Across America", and signed a "Pledge to Read" certificate.

The Cat In The Hat was on hand all day, as guest readers visited the BCE library throughout the day to read to each class from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade. Guest readers included Mayor Madeleine Praino of Vinton, employees of the Kohls' Department Store, CISD administrators, and BCE principal and assistant principal.

"Having individuals from different walks of life read to the students and participate in this event helps stress the importance of literacy in our schools as well as our community," said Jerrie Wilson, BCE librarian and event coordinator.



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

Aimee Contreras, Aida Ortega, Gerry Legarreta, Beth Santillan and Bill Welch of Telerx presented Arleen Beard and her students a donation of \$1,265 for the "Pennies for Patients" program. Each student was also given a fleece blanket. The money goes to help the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Pennies

From Page 1

collect the money. Along with the money, Telerx also gave each student

in Beard's class an *Ice Age 2* fleece blanket.

Gonzalez, Beard and her students were very appreciative of the donation and gifts. Gonzalez said, "It's nice to see the community contribute to assist the less fortunate."

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Clint ISD Business Professionals of America do well in Dallas

By Janis Andrade
Special to the Courier

Top students from Mountain View High School attended the Business Professionals of America 2008 State Leadership Conference, in Dallas, TX, March 5 to 8, 2008.

Mountain View chapter members recently competed at the Regional Leadership Conference on Feb. 1 and 2. These students will join over 2,000 other conference delegates from across the state to participate in state level business skill competitions, general sessions, and the state officer candidate campaigns and elections. They will have the opportunity to compete and qualify for the National Competition, which will be in Reno, Nevada in May.

“Students from the Texas Association’s Regional Leadership Conference have qualified to participate at the state level conference. The conference emphasizes business workforce education and training which members of the local chapter of Business Professionals of America at Mountain View have received,” said chapter advisor, Dustin Blystone, who teaches A+ Computer Maintenance.

The following students qualified to compete at the National Leadership Conference and Competition to be held in May: Gerardo Carrasco won 3rd Place in PC Servicing and

Troubleshooting, and the Web Site Design Team of Jesus Torres, Griselda Higuera, and Rene Ramirez won 1st Place out of 39 other teams.

The Video Production team of Jonathan Lucero, Alyssa O’Hara, Jeremy Rubio, and Gerardo Carrasco, came in 5th place out of 31 teams to qualify as a national alternate. The following individuals competed in finals and are national alternates: Jonathan Lucero, 5th place for Digital Media production; Nataly Garcia, 8th place Administrative Support Research Project; and Sandra Perez, 8th place Microsoft Network Administration.

Business Professionals of America is a national organization for middle school, high school, and college students preparing for careers in business and office occupations. The organization’s activities and programs complement classroom instruction by giving students practical experience through application of the skills learned at school. Business Professionals of America acts as a cohesive agent in the nationwide networking of education and business and industry, and is contributing to the preparation of a world-class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic, and technological skills.

Janis Andrade teaches Business Computers at Mountain View High School.



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS — Mountain View High School students have been busy with area and regional competitions. Back row, from left, are Jesus Torres, Jonathan Lucero, Jerry Carrasco, Jeremy Rubio and Matthew Cherry. Front row, from left, are Helenora Estrella, Ingrid Chavez, Stephanie Valdiviez, Sandra Perez, Erika Castaneda and Nataly Garcia.

Canutillo HS Future Business Leaders of America advance to Houston competition

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier

Seventeen students from Canutillo High School’s (CHS) Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) recently competed in locally for an opportunity to advance to the State Future Business Leaders of America competition being held during April in Houston.

CHS state qualifiers and their individual contest are: Business Law — Jaime Montes, 1st place, Nolberto Padilla, 3rd place; Battle of the Chapters — Miriam Garcia, Dominick Ruiz., Alfonso Frias, and Jackie Estrada, 2nd place; Cyber Security — Eric Flores and Cindy Galvan, 2nd place; FBLA Principles and Procedures — Dominic Ruiz, 1st place; Impromptu Speaking — Miriam Garcia, 2nd place; Job Interview — Alfonso Frias, 2nd place; Public Speaking II — Minerva Zamora, 3rd place; and Word Processing II — Julissa Mora, 2nd place.

Other CHS students who competed during the regional contests held at the Ysleta Cultural Center were Richard Sifuentes in Business Calculations; Patrick Medina, Jasmine Estrada, and Ashley Escobedo in Desktop Publishing; Stephanie Gutierrez and Melodie Armendariz in Ethics; and Kelsey Uchizono in Impromptu Speaking.

“These contests give students the opportunity to meet and compete against other students from across the state, which affords them the opportunity to qualify for national level competition,” said Carmen Guzman, CHS teacher and FBLA advisor.



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

BUSINESS LEADERS — Ten Canutillo High School FBLA participants have qualified to compete in Houston. The FBLA participants and advisors are (bottom row, from left) Kelsey Uchizono, Eric Flores, Stella Scott and Carmen Guzman, FBLA Advisors; Richard Sifuentes, and Jaime Montes. Middle row, from left, are Melodie Armendariz, Cindy Galvan, Jasmine Estrada, Ashley Escobedo, Miriam Garcia, and Dominick Ruiz. Top row, from left, are Stephanie Gutierrez, Minerva Zamora, Nolberto Padilla, Jackie Estrada, Patrick Medina, Julissa Mora, and Alfonso Frias.

Lady Miner's next game will be in the Big Dance

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Watching the UTEP Lady Miners go down to defeat the other night in the championship game of the Conference USA Basketball Tournament, I couldn't help but think about what they'd actually accomplished.

Sure it was disappointing to see them get to the national stage (ESPN2) and then get stomped by SMU, but let's give these ladies a break. They hadn't felt the stink of defeat since Dec. 1.

I remember when coach Keitha Adams arrived at UTEP. She was said to be a great hire and she was one of the best candidates out there.

After she went 3-25 her first year I must admit I had my doubts.

What she's done with this program over the last two years has been phenomenal.

Remember, the Miners were 22-8 last season.

The only question now is which team will the Miners face in the NCAA Tournament, and where?

While the men's team takes two steps forward and three steps back, the women have been one of the most consistent in the country.

And though I know she'll never win it, because she doesn't coach at one of the bigger schools, it's nice to hear that Adams in getting some consideration for National Coach of the Year.

Boy has she earned it.

As a kid growing up I never paid any attention whatsoever to the UTEP women's games. But I didn't feel so bad — nobody did.

Seeing fans come out by the thousands this year was really a treat. The players and the coaches have really earned every accolade they've received.

This is definitely something new for fans of the UTEP basketball program. Even die-hard men's fans are enjoying watching the women play.

And I have to say this about Adams. I never see her get flustered on the bench. I'm not saying she doesn't, but she controls her emotions very well. And you've got to think that helps keep her team on an even keel.

So no matter who they play in the Big Dance, El Pasoans will be waiting anxiously by their sets to watch a UTEP women's basketball game — when has that ever happened before?

Just goes to show, with the right combination of talent, determination and leadership, you can accomplish anything — even if you play on the UTEP women's basketball team.

Heat cooling off

What else can happen to the Miami Heat? You remember the Miami heat don't you?

They are the team from South Florida who won the NBA title a couple years ago by beating the Dallas Mavericks four games to two. Oh, how times have changed.

That was the year that Pat Riley left the comfy confines of the general manager's chair and returned to the bench as the team's coach.

Well, after being chastised for moving Stan Van Gundy out as coach, Riley and Shaquille O'Neal went on to win the title that year.

Seems like decades ago. The Miami Heat have gone from NBA champs to the worst team in the league in just

a couple years. What happened? Simple, the Heat just got old. And once you win a title it's tough to build that same kind of motivation to win it again.

So this year the Heat said good-bye to Shaq, sending him to the Phoenix Suns for Shawn Marion.

To make things even worse for Riley and the Heat is the fact that it was recently announced that their other star, Dwayne Wade, will miss the rest of the season. He is having more problems with that tender knee of his.

I think the Miami Heat should seriously consider trying to get an at-large berth in the NCAA Tournament. That's the only place where they might win a game the rest of the year.

This is what happens to teams who only live for the moment, they fade away all too quickly.

Gee, I guess the only team that has kept performing at a high level over the past decade is the boring San Antonio Spurs.

I wonder why most teams don't revert to that simple game of basketball that includes passing, good shooting, rebounding and defense.

I bet the Miami Heat are wondering.

Clarke librarian on EP Library Board

Kirk Macon, Library Media Specialist at Walter Clarke MS, was recently appointed to serve on the El Paso Public Library Association Board of Directors. He is representing District 7 which is one of 8 city council districts.

He was notified of his election in January.

"I really look forward to my involvement with the El Paso Public Library Association. I plan to roll up my sleeves and get to work to do what's best for the public library system," said Macon. "In a city where we have a high illiteracy rate, our libraries perform a crucial, critical role in the development of our citizens and future leaders. I'll help in any way that I can for the advancement and advocacy of our fine public libraries in El Paso."



Kirk Macon

Macon was notified of his appointment by Luis Chaparro, the Vice President and President Elect. In a letter to Macon, Chaparro writes "we hope that with the skills and abilities you bring to the table, this Board can effectively provide the leadership and direction to our library system."

"SISD Library Services is proud that Kirk has been appointed to the El Paso Public Library Board of Directors. I know he will contribute valuable library experience, knowledge, and dedication to his service. The residents of District 7 will be well represented," said Sue Thompson, SISD Library Services Coordinator.

The El Paso Public Library Association is an advisory board dedicated to supporting the mission of El Paso Public Library, "to serve our diverse community through full access to information, entertainment, and lifelong learning."

For more information on the El Paso Public Library, please visit their website at <http://www.elpasotexas.gov/library/default.asp>.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CLINT INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE OF INTENT

The Clint Independent School District hereby gives notice of its intent to enter into a contract for the purchase of real property. The major provisions of the contract are set forth below:

Property: Parcel "A" Located 13001 Block of North Loop: Tract 23-1 Block 23, San Elizario Grant. The sale of this parcel would include frontage on the north side of North Loop.

Owner: Lettunich Family Farms, Ltd.

Purchase Price: Twenty Thousand Dollars and 00/100s (\$20,000.00) per acre.

Questions regarding this notice of intent or the proposed contract should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools, Clint ISD Administration Building, 14521 Horizon Blvd., El Paso, Texas 79928.

WTCC 03/13/08

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 March 26, 2008. 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: 03/06/08 03/13/08

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

THURSDAY MARCH 20, 2008

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND REPAIR SERVICES CSP NO. 199-0320-8058

ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

TUESDAY MARCH 18, 2008

BACKFLOW PREVENTER — PART II CSP NO. 199-0318-8057

ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

TIRE RECAP-PING AND DISPOSAL CSP NO. 199-0318-8053

ACCEPTED UNTIL 3:00 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

THURSDAY MARCH 20, 2008

DISTRICT ANTIVIRUS SOLUTIONS CSP NO. 199-0320-8060

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.

Proposals are also available at the District's website: www.sisd.net WTCC-03/13/08

HOUSES

Houses for sale. No down, low interest, financing available. Carlos Aguilar, Broker, Realtor. 857-3374 or 269-1251.

SELF-HELP

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help lo-

cally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081 for information.

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

STORAGE

National Self Storage BRAND NEW UNITS 10'x20' - Special \$85/mth for 3 months. Call Blanca or Gina. 852-8300.

SERVICES

"Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring"

JIFFY GLASS REPAIR

Windshield Repair Specialists By appt. at your home or office: R.V. Dick Harshberger 915-203-7005

HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079

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

West Texas County Courier 852-3235

Answers

ALBS	ACH	BEAM	MAGIC
SOLI	DRU	BARREL	ADANO
HOUN	DOG	ERNANT	CORNY
MEGA	SHEET	USMA	DEL
PERPS	GREAT	ZED	ERE
ORDER	ING	RDA	TWAIN
ARI	ONO	OPT	MAPLE
BAND	FGOLD	REHAB	NAIL
ALTOS	KORAN	URIS	REA
MICA	TAM	AMEBA	TUN
BRA	REDRUBBER	BALL	YTD
ROM	IDEAS	ERR	SEAR
AWE	SELL	ARIAS	DAVIS
CARP	DEPTH	SUGAR	SHACK
ENIAC	HOE	TBA	LEI
CLOTH	MAB	ASSUAGED	
MIA	BEA	EDICT	OLSON
INN	BAR	CREEL	ORTS
NEPAL	STRIKE	SURFCITY	
OPINE	HEBREW	PTA	ENOS
STEER	PIER	YEW	YOWL

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WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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)
16	17	18	(FOR \$5 AD.)
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: _____

• Place Your Classified •
1: Fill out the form;
2: Write a check; then
3: Send both to us.

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



NASA rocking their worlds

By Don Flood

NASA, in a bold move to bring Earth's pop music to entertainment-starved aliens, recently began beaming the Beatles song "Across the Universe," well, across the universe.

More specifically, the song is being streamed toward the North Star, Polaris, home to a long-running "Beatlemania" musical revue. (The one playing Ringo would be a dead ringer if he didn't have eight eyes.)

I don't have a problem with the project. With the collapse of our planet's recording industry, it's clearly part of NASA's mission to find new markets for Earthling pop stars, though Michael Jackson has been in close contact with alien record producers for years.

But I think NASA is ignoring some potential issues:

- Noise pollution — Don't you hate it when a car pulls up next to you with the radio so loud the road shakes?

I have a fear that Earth is the discourteous driver of the Milky Way Galaxy. All around us aliens from other planets are screaming, "How can they hear themselves think with all that racket? Turn it down, already!"

- While the Beatles certainly have broad appeal, it may not be universal. Instead of beaming Beatles 24/7, we should mix it up; throw in some B.B. King or Rolling Stones. And where is it written that aliens don't like disco?

(Many people mistakenly assume that aliens just love the Beach Boys' "Good Vibrations," because it has a "spacey" sound to it, but this is a silly stereotype.)

- Paul McCartney may not be the best representative for planet Earth. The following is an actual

quote: "Send my love to the aliens," Paul McCartney told NASA through a Beatles historian. "All the best, Paul."

"Send my love to the aliens"?

This is the wrong message in so many ways. We shouldn't even mention the word "love" because, as we know from countless sci-fi shows and movies, one of the chief reasons aliens visit Earth is to abduct our women.

(Among those abducted was my wife, who I was able to win back in a poker game. "Star Trek" viewers may recall that Spock was good at chess, but didn't understand poker. This is true of aliens in general.)

And then there's the signoff, "All the best, Paul."

I'm sorry, Sir Paul, but using only your first name sounds a bit presumptuous and could offend space aliens.

Which brings up the most important point: What songs should we hold in reserve in case of a War of the Worlds?

Songs like "We Built This City" by Jefferson Starship and "Muskrat Love" by The Captain and Tennille could hold aliens at bay for generations.

Some would argue that we need to upgrade our arsenal with more modern weaponry; in which case I would recommend blasting them with Fergie's "My Humps," which may be the worst song in the history of the universe.

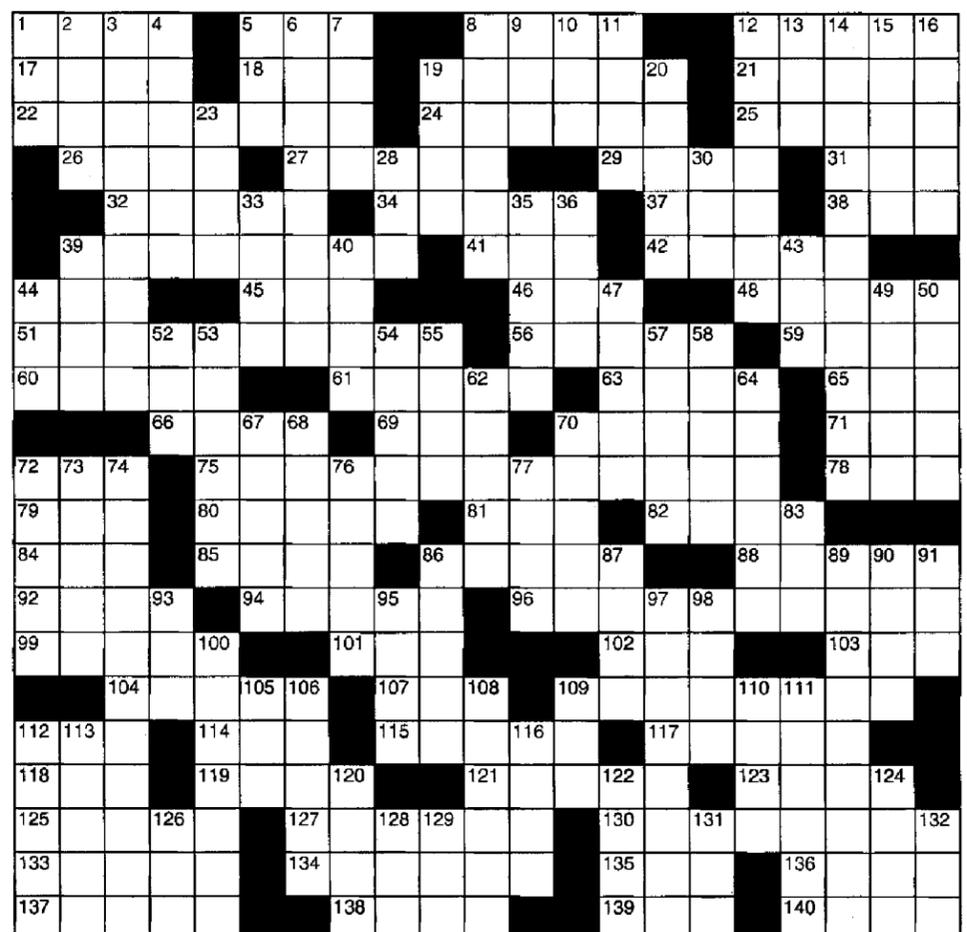
Sample lyrics: "My hump, my hump, my hump, my hump; My hump, my hump, my hump, my lovely lady lumps (check it out)."

But hopefully it won't come to that, especially if we have Michael Jackson negotiating for us.

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King Super Crossword

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p>THEIR SONGS</p> <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Clerical garments</p> <p>5 Rhine whine?</p> <p>8 Put on a happy face</p> <p>12 Like Mozart's flute</p> <p>17 86 Across, e.g.</p> <p>18 Actress Joanne</p> <p>19 See 19 Down</p> <p>21 Hersey setting</p> <p>22 Elvis' canine?</p> <p>24 Verdi opera</p> <p>25 Like Kansas?</p> <p>26 Big beginning</p> <p>27 Quire part</p> <p>29 Cadet sch.</p> <p>31 Tierra _ Fuego</p> <p>32 Felons, for instance</p> <p>34 Like Peter or Catherine</p> <p>37 Oxford omega</p> <p>38 Archaic</p> <p>preposition</p> <p>39 General's gerund</p> <p>41 Vitamin bottle abbr.</p> <p>42 Finn's creator</p> <p>44 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"</p> <p>45 Plastic _ Band</p> <p>46 Choose, with "for"</p> <p>48 Syrup source</p> <p>51 Freda Payne's jewelry?</p> <p>56 Change for the better</p> <p>59 Roofer's need</p> | <p>60 Los _ , CA</p> <p>61 Islamic holy book</p> <p>63 "Mila 18" author</p> <p>65 "The Crying Game" star</p> <p>66 Isinglass</p> <p>69 Flat hat</p> <p>70 Tiny parasite</p> <p>71 Cask</p> <p>72 Lingerie purchase</p> <p>75 The Cyrkle's plaything?</p> <p>78 Accounting abbr.</p> <p>79 Computer acronym</p> <p>80 They may be bright</p> <p>81 Blunder</p> <p>82 Barbecue</p> <p>84 Blow away</p> <p>85 Push a product</p> <p>86 "Manon" melodies</p> <p>88 Confederate president</p> <p>92 Goldfish, e.g.</p> <p>94 Profundity</p> <p>96 Jimmy Gilmer's house?</p> <p>99 Early computer</p> <p>101 Scuffle</p> <p>102 TV-listing abbr.</p> <p>103 Fragrant neckwear</p> <p>104 Material</p> <p>107 Fairy queen</p> <p>109 Made milder</p> <p>112 Farrow of "Alice"</p> <p>114 Arthur or Benaderet</p> <p>115 Proclamation</p> | <p>117 American poet Charles</p> <p>118 Caravansary</p> <p>119 Blocks the way</p> <p>121 Angler's basket</p> <p>123 Fido's dinner, perhaps</p> <p>125 Katmandu's country</p> <p>127 Stop working</p> <p>130 Jan & Dean's resort?</p> <p>133 Speak one's mind</p> <p>134 Semitic tongue</p> <p>135 Child welfare org.</p> <p>136 Baseball's Cabell</p> <p>137 That's no bull!</p> <p>138 "Bon voyage" site</p> <p>139 Evergreen tree</p> <p>140 Cry of distress</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 _ Wednesday</p> <p>2 Weaver's need</p> <p>3 Plan</p> <p>4 Burned a bit</p> <p>5 Count up</p> <p>6 Tennyson's " _ the Bar"</p> <p>7 Laurie of "Jeeves and Wooster"</p> <p>8 Trade</p> <p>9 East ender?</p> <p>10 Coach Parseghian</p> <p>11 Computer selection list</p> <p>12 Paving material</p> <p>13 Hullabaloo</p> <p>14 Rick Nelson's</p> | <p>social event?</p> <p>15 Private</p> <p>16 "The Friends of Eddie _" ('73 film)</p> <p>19 With 19 Across, popular polka</p> <p>20 Wagner's father-in-law</p> <p>23 Challenge</p> <p>28 Tomorrow's turtle</p> <p>30 Litter sound</p> <p>33 Classy doc?</p> <p>35 Decorate</p> <p>36 Sticky stuff</p> <p>39 Evangelist Roberts</p> <p>40 Recess</p> <p>43 Holm or Hunter</p> <p>44 Attorneys' org.</p> <p>47 Up or down item?</p> <p>49 Mil. rank</p> <p>50 Largest antelope</p> <p>52 Comic DeLuise</p> <p>53 Spouse of Isis</p> <p>54 Yoga position</p> <p>55 Uninteresting</p> <p>57 Zones</p> <p>58 Perennial bestseller</p> <p>62 Waves of grain color</p> <p>64 Dieter's dishes</p> <p>67 Handed over</p> <p>68 Mr. Rochester's ward</p> <p>70 Chilean pianist</p> <p>72 Pair</p> <p>73 Atkinson of "The Black Adder"</p> | <p>74 Don McLean's dessert?</p> <p>76 Fiennes of "Quiz Show"</p> <p>77 Olympic troublemaker</p> <p>83 Super Bowl sound</p> <p>86 Winning</p> <p>87 Some NCOs</p> <p>89 "The Sheik" star</p> <p>90 Laid on buttercream</p> <p>91 Aspen item</p> <p>93 Crony</p> <p>95 Heavy reading?</p> <p>97 Utter</p> <p>98 Julia of "The Addams Family"</p> <p>100 Bakery buy</p> <p>105 It's in the bag</p> <p>106 Stern</p> <p>108 Squabble</p> <p>109 Relished a roast</p> <p>110 From</p> <p>111 "Dead End Kid" Leo</p> <p>112 Underworld judge</p> <p>113 Like a lummoX</p> <p>116 Hands</p> <p>120 _ aerobics</p> <p>122 Catch sight of</p> <p>124 Fill the hold</p> <p>126 Chemical suffix</p> <p>128 McGwire stat</p> <p>129 Indignation</p> <p>131 Unrefined</p> <p>132 Fashion monogram</p> |
|--|---|--|--|--|



Answer Page 6

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Supplemental Security Income and other income

You may be able to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), even if you have other income?

SSI is a federal program that provides monthly payments to people who have little or no income and who don't own many things. SSI is for elderly people, as well as blind or disabled people of any age, including children. To get SSI, you must be 65 or older, be totally or partially blind, or have a medical condition that keeps you from working and is expected to last at least one year or result in death.

In addition, to be eligible for SSI, you also must be a U.S. resident and have resources worth less than \$2,000 for an individual or \$3,000 for a couple. The resources usually do not include the home you live in, vehicle you drive, funds set aside for burial, or personal

items.

Some people believe that if they have other income, they cannot apply for SSI. The fact is that you can apply, as long as your current income is limited. The type and amount of additional income you receive may have an effect on your SSI amount.

Right now, the maximum monthly payment for SSI is \$637 for an individual and \$956 for a couple.

For SSI purposes, we look at your monthly income. For unearned income, such as Social Security benefits, unemployment, worker's compensation or insurance payments, we do not count the first \$20 you receive each month. So, if you get a check for \$200, only \$180 would be counted as income for SSI purposes. After the \$20 exclusion, the remaining money

counts dollar-for-dollar against your SSI. So in this example, \$180 would be deducted from the base amount of your SSI payment.

For earned income (like wages or self employment) we exclude an additional \$65 per month. If your only income besides SSI is wages or self-employment and there is no unearned income, the additional \$20 exclusion is added on. This means your exclusion for earned income would be \$85 per month.

When your income is from work, as in this case, we only subtract 50 cents for every dollar you earn out of your SSI check base amount. So in this example, even though you worked and earned \$200, your SSI payment would only be reduced by \$57.50.

It is important to remember that we use your gross income, not your net income, to compute the monthly amounts. Also, there are some sorts of income which we do not count at all, such as food stamps, food from churches and soup kitchens, and shelter you receive from most private, non-profit organizations. We also exclude most home energy assistance.

If you believe you might qualify for SSI, call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) or check out our website at www.socialsecurity.gov. You can also read our online publication, You May Be Able to Get SSI, at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/11069.html. SSI may be just the thing you need to supplement your income.

Briefs

From Page 1

crossed the Bridge of the Americas into El Paso from Juarez. She became separated from her friends, and was attempting to find a taxi when the suspect vehicle approached her and a man grabbed her and forced her into the vehicle. She was then driven to the general area of the 500 block of Hernandez and the 4500 block of Blanco, to an unknown apartment where she was sexually assaulted. The first suspect is described as an Hispanic male in his early 20's, 5-foot 6-inches tall, with short cropped hair, thin build, and wearing a white t-shirt and blue jeans. The second suspect is also an Hispanic male in his early 20's, with long wavy shoulder-length hair. They were driving a silver colored, 4-door vehicle with tinted windows. No other description is available. If you have any information at all about this crime, either the suspects or the vehicle, please call Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip online at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You will be anonymous, and you may earn a cash reward if your tip leads to an arrest.

Busts

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers working at ports of entry in El Paso, West Texas, and New Mexico seized \$406,130 in smuggled currency last week. In addition to the currency, CBP officers seized almost two tons of illegal drugs, identified nearly 100 immigration violations, and uncovered dozens of other violations during the week. CBP officers made two outbound currency seizures this week. The largest was made March 2 at the Bridge of the Americas when CBP officers discovered \$389,070 hidden in the quarter panels of a 2008 Seat Altea SUV that was attempting to leave the United States. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents arrested the driver, 22-year-old Alan Eduardo Salas Delgado, of Chihuahua City, Chihuahua, Mexico. Individuals are permitted to carry any amount of currency or monetary instruments into or out of the U.S. However if the quantity is \$10,000 or higher, they must formally report the currency to CBP. During the past week, area CBP officers made 40 drug seizures. CBP officers seized 3,879 pounds of marijuana in 38 busts and a small quantity of cocaine in two additional seizures.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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of Texas

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LUNG DISEASE

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