

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Conservation contest

EPWU is asking El Paso area students to get creative by using tools ranging from crayons to video-editing software to spread the word about water conservation. Students in grades 1 through 12 are eligible to compete in a poster contest; high school students are eligible to compete in a video contest. The theme for both contests is Water Conservation in El Paso. As the region's historic drought continues, EPWU will call on customers to conserve water in many ways. Since small actions can make a big difference, successful entries will creatively highlight water conservation methods El Pasoans can undertake in their daily lives. Winners of each contest will be awarded cash prizes. Their work will be featured at the EPWU Discover Center at the El Paso Zoo, at the TecH2O Water Resources Learning Center, and on EPWU's social media platforms. The contests are part of Drinking Water Week, May 6-12, an annual celebration of municipal water suppliers sponsored by the American Water Works Association. Information on eligibility, deadlines and prizes is available at [tech2o.org/events.html](http://tech2o.org/events.html). All entries are due by April 16, 2012. For more information on the contests, contact the TecH2O Center at 621-2000.

— Christina Montoya

### Crime app

Crime Stoppers of El Paso has announced that people can now anonymously report the identities and whereabouts of suspected criminals through a mobile app. A free Crime Stoppers app, called "TipSubmit," is now available for iPhones and Android cellular telephones. The new telephone app uses the phones' built-in GPS system to auto-locate the nearest Crime Stoppers organization and allows the sender to attach photos and video to the tip. "This option offers more powerful options than text messaging tips," says Crime Stoppers of El Paso board president Donald L. Reay. If the information provided in the tip leads to an arrest, the tipster is eligible for a cash reward up to \$1,000 just as when people submit tips to 566-TIPS (566-8477) or online at [www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org](http://www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org). Tips may also be sent by text message. To do so, start your message with CRIME1 (no space) followed by the tip information, and send the message to CRIMES (274637).

— James Klaes

### Appointment

Gov. Rick Perry has appointed Manuela "Mamie" Salazar-Harper of El Paso to the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners for a term to expire Aug. 26.

See BRIEFS, Page 4

*The cheapest way to have your family tree traced is to run for public office.*

— Quips & Quotes

## TEA nominates school for 2012 award

By Alfredo Vasquez  
*Special to the Courier*

EL PASO COUNTY — Mission Early College High School (MECHS), in the Socorro Independent School District, is among a select group of schools that have been nominated for the prestigious National Blue Ribbon Schools award this year.

Texas Education Agency (TEA) Commissioner Robert Scott made the announcement in January of the 26 Texas public schools that TEA selected to nominate for the 2012 Blue Ribbon Schools recognition. The award honors schools from throughout the country for academic excellence and for significant progress in closing the achievement gap.

MECHS, founded in 2005 through joint efforts between Socorro Independent School District (SISD) and the El Paso Community College (EPCC), is a unique high school that enables students to move in four years from the ninth grade through the first two years of college and allows them to earn an associate of arts degree in addition to a high school diploma. The school is located adjacent to EPCC's Mission campus.

Since 1982, The Blue Ribbon Schools Program has honored more than 6,000 of America's most successful schools, including 538 Texas public schools. This prestigious program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools. Schools are selected for one of two honors:

- Improving — Schools that dramatically improve student performance to high levels on state tests; and
- High Achieving — Schools whose students rank in the top 10 percent based on performance on their state standardized tests.

MECHS is the only school in El Paso County nominated as a high achieving school.



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

**Mission Early College High School is the only school in El Paso County nominated as a high achieving school for the prestigious 2012 National Blue Ribbon Schools award. MECHS is located adjacent to EPCC's Mission campus in the Lower Valley.**

Douglas Elementary School in the El Paso Independent School District is nominated as an improving school.

According to a TEA news release, the nominated schools were chosen through an objective evaluation of student achievement statistics and other data for the more than 8,000 public school and charter campuses in the state.

"Schools nominated for the award serve as models of best practices for schools across the state," a TEA official stated.

The nominated schools will now complete a rigorous application process through

the U.S. Department of Education, and announcements of the award winners will be made in September 2012. Schools that receive the award are recognized at the Blue Ribbon School conference in Washington, D.C.

In 2011, the U.S. Department of Education named 305 schools as National Blue Ribbon Schools, which included three schools from the El Paso area — Coldwell Elementary School and Silva Magnet School for Health Professions in the El Paso Independent School District and Escontrias Elementary

See AWARD, Page 5

## Help sought for San Elizario community garden project

Cynthia P. Marentes  
*Special to the Courier*

SAN ELIZARIO — The arrival of springtime in and around San Elizario can be seen in the few pecan groves, alfalfa fields, and plots of flowering cotton shrubs still left that bring the land back to life each season. This area with its long but fading farming history will soon be the site of a new endeavor — the creation and development of a sustainable community garden. The San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD) in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are making progress in establishing this pilot project but still need support to obtain more resources and materials.

Miguel Moreno, a 2002 San Elizario High School graduate who now works for the EPA, proposed the idea of a community garden to the District. According to Moreno, one of the current objectives of the EPA is to identify communities underserved by the federal government and assist in implementing a grassroots or community based-approach to issues such as environmental public health challenges. Moreno stated that San Elizario was selected as the most appropriate site for a sustainable pilot garden because it has a 98.99 percent Hispanic population and has



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

**COMMUNITY PROJECT — San Elizario High School students, from left, Gabriel Baez and Noe Sauceda build a raised gardening bed retainer.**

a close-knit community with farming past. The specific goals of the EPA for the project are to create a self-sustaining garden run and administered by volunteers; to provide environmental awareness and create lasting partnerships; and to replicate the project in

other communities in the area.

With an initial grant of \$5,000 from the EPA, SEISD has already designated approximately 18,000 square feet of land behind the Excell

See GARDEN, Page 5

## Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

# Veteran foreclosures

Veterans weren't forgotten in the recent \$25 billion mortgage servicing settlement. In fact, veterans were treated much better than civilian counterparts who'd had their homes foreclosed.

In the lawsuit leading to the settlement, it was determined that the four biggest mortgage servicers violated the Servicemen's Civil Relief Act, the law that outlines the rules under which mortgages must be handled for veterans.

Those banks will now have to pay veterans \$116,785 each, plus equity that was lost in the property after it was wrongfully foreclosed, plus any interest. That number might end up being higher.

JP Morgan Chase will need to provide the veteran with his or her property "free and clear of any debt or the cash equivalent of the full value of the home at the time of sale."

Citigroup, Wells Fargo and Ally will have to give a refund to any veterans charged more than 6 percent interest on a mortgage after receiving a request to lower that rate, plus triple that amount.

The agreement expands and

beefs up the rules for SCRA. Previously a bank was prohibited from foreclosing on a veteran-owned property if the mortgage was taken out before the veteran began military service. Now the rule will additionally state that no matter when the mortgage began, if the veteran received Hostile Fire/Imminent Danger Pay and was away from home within nine months of foreclosure, the veteran is protected from foreclosure.

If you believe you are covered by this settlement, get your paperwork in order and call for military legal assistance. Go online to <http://legalassistance.law.af.mil> and look in the Legal Services Locator for the Armed Forces Legal Assistance office nearest you. Also see [www.servicemembers.gov](http://www.servicemembers.gov) for information, or call the Justice Department at 1-800-896-7743.

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## WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

39  
Years  
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## View from here By Texas Comptroller Susan Combs

# A victory for Texas landowners

February 24, 2012, was an important day for Texas landowners, and for all Texans who care about property rights. On that day, the Supreme Court of Texas issued its opinion in a case called Edwards Aquifer Authority and the State of Texas v. Burrell Day and Joel McDaniel. The court spoke definitively to an issue of enormous importance to all landowners: their right to use the waters under their properties.

As a fourth-generation West Texas rancher myself, I know full well how important that water can be, and what it would feel like if a government agency told you that you couldn't use the water under your own land.

But too often, that's just what happens. Conservation goals that could be accomplished with open communication and negotiation between agricultural producers and Texas' water districts are pursued by administrative edict instead.

I've been concerned with this issue for a very long time. As a legislator in 1995, with the late Senator Teel Bivins, I wrote and passed the Texas Private Real Property Rights Preservation Act, a law that has been called "a basic charter for the protection of private real property rights in Texas."

The act specifically defined real property as including groundwater rights—rights that shouldn't be taken away without just compensation.

When government regulations limit your ability to use your land as productively as you can, they've cut its value. And when they devalue your land, it's called a "taking." Article I of the Texas Constitution says it clearly:

"No person's property shall be taken, damaged, or destroyed for or applied to public use without adequate compensation being made."

It's a bedrock principle of our state.

It was the issue before the Supreme Court in the Day case: "Whether land ownership includes an interest in groundwater in place that cannot be taken for public use without adequate compensation" as guaranteed by the Constitution?

The Court looked at how the Edwards Aquifer Authority issues permits based on "the amount of beneficial use" a person's groundwater has been put to in the past. The Authority was using a "use it or lose it" approach to groundwater ownership based on regulations that say, in effect, that landowners can be deprived of nearly all use of their groundwater simply because they hadn't used it before.

That's why I was pleased to file an amicus brief in the case, and even more pleased to learn that the court had supported the landowners involved, concluding "a landowner cannot be deprived of all beneficial use of the groundwater below his property merely because he did not use it during an historical period."

Now the Supreme Court has set it in stone: you have an ownership interest to the water under your land, just as you do oil or gas. And if state or local authorities want to interfere with your constitutionally protected rights, they have to pay you for it.

This opinion was critical to ensuring the stability of land titles and market value of lands and to the continued sustainability of investments made by communities across the state in acquiring groundwater rights from landowners to support the water supply needs of their growing economies.

As Texas' population growth continues its breakneck pace, greater demands inevitably will be placed on our precious water resources. These will have to be managed wisely and well through a shared responsibility. But if we ignore private property rights, we've lost a fundamental part of what makes Texas what it is.

Fortunately, it looks like we're staying on the right path.

## Lady Scorpions finish great season

By Andrew Reynoso  
*Special to the Courier*

HORIZON — District 4-A, Bi-district, Area, Regional Quarterfinal, and Regional Semifinal Champions, the Horizon girls' basketball team advanced further in the playoffs than any other El Paso area girls team this year. The Texas Girls Coaches Association 4-A Basketball Poll ranked Horizon No. 7 in the State on Feb. 28.

The Lady Scorpions defeated Granbury 53-46 Friday, February 24 in another exciting and close game to advance to the Regional Final in Snyder, Texas, but fell to No. 1 ranked Mansfield Summit 53-39 Saturday. Horizon finished with a 32-3 overall record and undefeated in district play under first year coach Arturo Escobar.

"It's been a great long run this season," Escobar said. "The girls were playing good basketball and were really confident. We had a lot of firsts this year - our first district title, got out of the area round, won the regional quarterfinal and made our first ever appearance at the regional tournament."

Led by senior guard Janelle Perez and senior forward Leslie Caballero, this team has collected the first five trophies ever for the Horizon girls marking their playoff run by defeating Austin 58-36, Frenship 49-

41, Amarillo Palo Duro 45-44, and Granbury.

"It was a difficult season with a lot of adversities, but we managed to pull through," Perez said. "We all play together and have always had a pretty close team. We keep each other going and we don't give up."

Caballero said the team learned

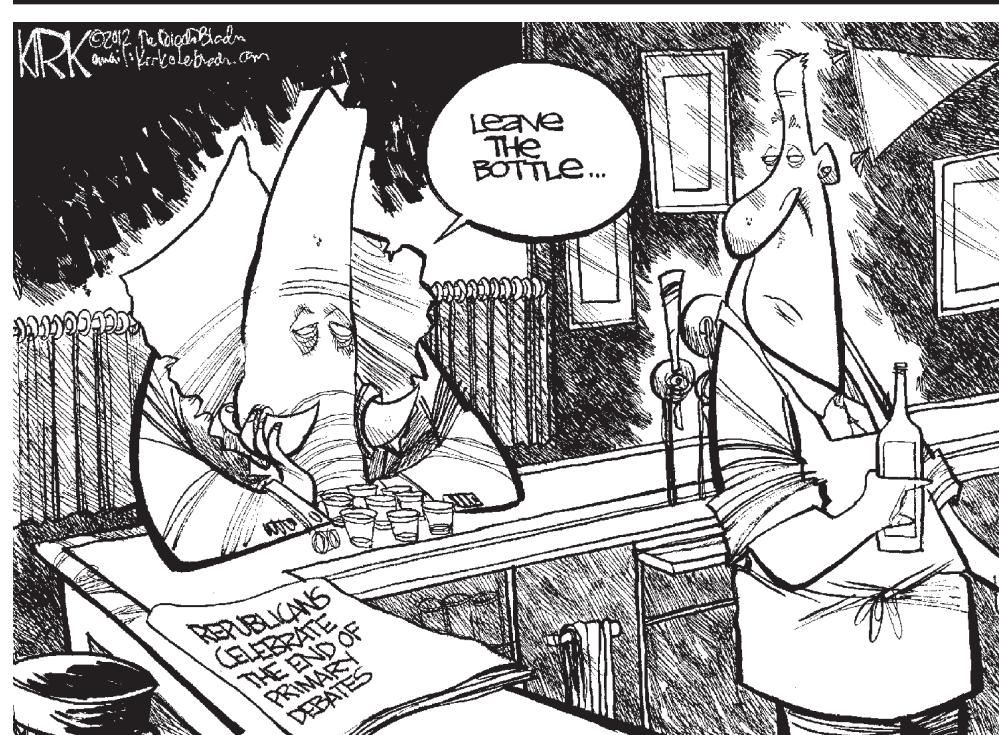
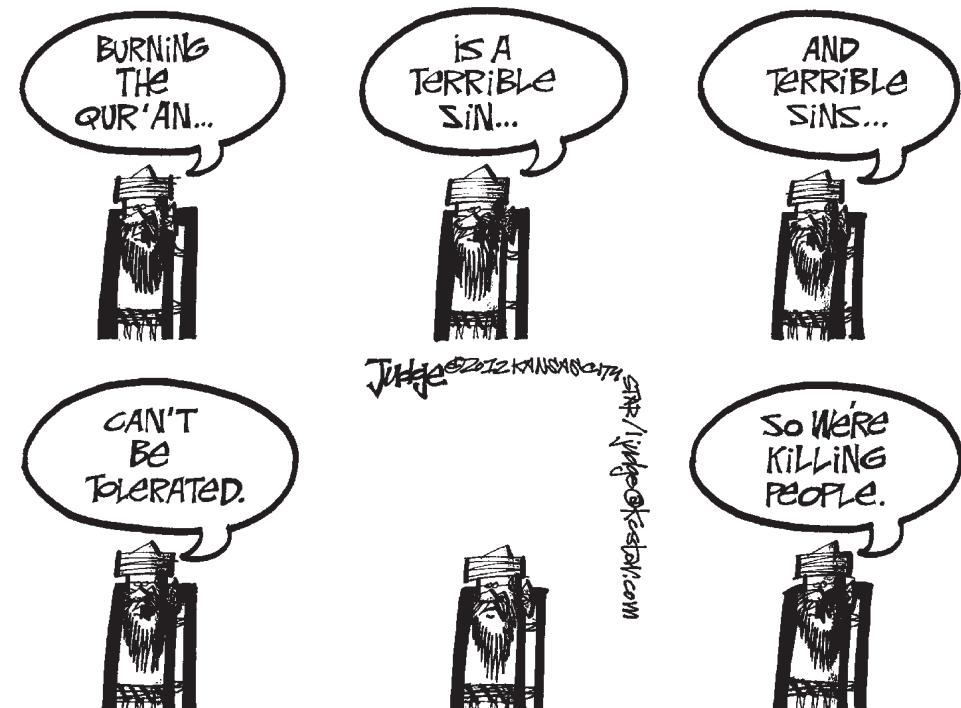
from losses to Chapin earlier in the season.

"We started playing hard, learned from our losses, kept the team going and pushing hard," Caballero said. "We play as a team and as a family. We've been successful and hoped to go further out and represent El Paso."

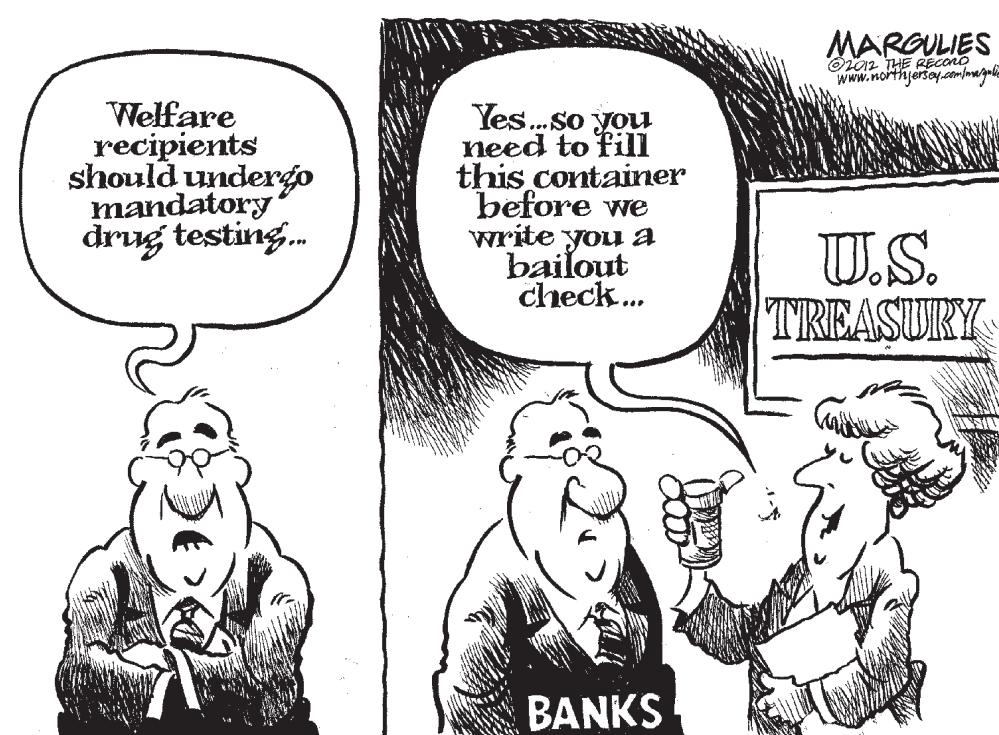


SHINY OBJECT — Horizon's Lady Scorpions show off their District 4-A trophy. The Scorpions compiled a 32-3 record this year.

— Photo courtesy Clint ISD



THE AXIS of ENABLE



## Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

# Meds need to be funded

Hola, mi gente. Just after Valentine's Day last month, I wrote about the gimmickry that was used to convince Texans that our budget was balanced. You may recall that one of the gimmicks was to intentionally under-fund Medicaid reimbursements.

Earlier in February, the Executive Commissioner of HHSC, Tom Suehs, stated publicly that the next legislature faces a vacuum of funding that amounts to between \$15 to \$17 billion. For two sessions now, the commissioner has stated flatly that his agency cannot satisfy the basic obligations that the state has without additional revenues.

My office has since the beginning of the year received many calls from constituents who receive benefits from Medicaid, mostly seniors, who have been burdened with less help or higher out of pocket money. These are people who are pretty much stuck at one income level, Social Security, plus whatever programs supplement that. If their health depends on certain amounts to be reimbursed to doctors, clinics or pharmacies are reduced, these poor people stand to lose their lifeline.

Granted, it is a fact that our economy has suffered and that revenues to the state have fallen. It is also a fact that certain industries that have come to Texas and made hundreds of millions of dollars refuse to share that wealth for the needy.

Just recently, a new program was initiated for the funding of prescriptions. In order to offset lost revenues, there has been a shift toward managed care. There is nothing wrong with managed care as long as it reduces or eliminates waste and fraud. In this case, it may mean more money for the cost managers and less for pharmacies and patients.

I have had conversations, with patients needing prescriptions and pharmacists who dispense the medicines, that have caused me great concern.

Pharmacies are not being reimbursed sufficiently for dispensing certain medications. Whether one wishes to acknowledge it or not, a pharmacy is a business. If the business does not get paid cost plus a profit margin, that business will go bankrupt.

My office has been informed that in too many cases, the documented reimbursement rate based on the maximum allowable cost is too low. Those local Medicaid entities that reimburse the pharmacies may be using outdated rates. If that is the case, then those entities are probably making a significant profit at the expense of pharmacies and the patients who need prescriptions.

How would you feel if you went to a pharmacy and asked for medicine that your child needed to breathe and it wasn't available? I know you would not be happy.

It is very dangerous that the reimbursements are inadequate to keep locally owned drug stores in business. You can be sure that those business people will not let their pharmacy go under. The ones to ultimately suffer will be poor parents and seniors.

I will have a letter to the commissioner out about this very serious situation. I am not certain how much of an impact I can have because the fact is that state agencies are not actually reimbursing the druggists. For the sake of those who need the medications, let's hope that reason prevails and that the health of certain Texans is no longer in jeopardy.

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

## San Elizario ISD names new administrators

Cynthia P. Marentes  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — The San Elizario Independent School District recently welcomed Arlene Alarcon and Ruben Cervantes to its administrative team. Alarcon was hired as the new Human Resources Director and Cervantes was selected as Assistant Superintendent for Planning and Instruction. Both appointments were approved by the San Elizario ISD board in February.

Born in Fabens and raised in Clint, Alarcon also has strong family ties to the San Elizario community. She has over 18 years experience in management and prior to joining the district served as Vice President for Human Resources with Goodwill Industries of El Paso. Alarcon earned her bachelor's degree in human resources from Park University and has two masters degrees from Webster University, one in human resources and another in management. She also teaches business courses at El Paso Community College and writes childrens books.

On her first few days on the job, Alarcon has been impressed with the quality of the schools and congenial working environment she has noticed among staff. She is already committed to learning the process of transitioning from the private sector to public education.

"I am excited to work with a district that has a rich history and has experienced positive growth. I want to continue to add to that growth and show others the great things happening in San Elizario that people don't really know about," Alarcon said.

She is married to Richard Alarcon who

owns an independent contracting business. Together they raised two children, Erika a third-grade teacher and Richard, Jr. an instructor at Western Technical College. The Alarcons are also the proud grandparents of three boys and one girl.



Arlene Alarcon

Ruben Cervantes comes to the district from Alpine, TX and has extensive experience in education and administration. Cervantes most recently worked in Kermit ISD where he served as principal at both the high school and middle school levels. He began his teaching career in neighboring Clint ISD teaching and coaching at different elementary and secondary campuses. He has also been a school counselor. Cervantes earned bachelor's in physical education with a minor in business, a master's in counseling, and a master's in mid-management, all degrees conferred by Sul Ross State University.

Touring the district and meeting with faculty kept Cervantes busy during his first week as Assistant Superintendent. One of his first priorities is to become familiar with students and staff in order to be able to address their needs and strive to improve instruction.

"I want to help provide the best education possible for our students and I want this to be the best district in the area," Cervantes said.

Cervantes is married to Rebecca who also works in the education field and is currently the Student Support Coordinator at Kermit ISD. His family also includes 10 year-old Dylan who will soon be a middle school student and Ruben, Jr., 21-years-old, who is attending Odessa College. Cervantes' family is still in Kermit but they will soon join him over the summer.



Ruben Cervantes

# El Dorado yearbook wins first national award in SISD history

By Carlos A. Briano  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — During the winter break, El Dorado High journalism made history. For the first time in 30 years, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) based out of Columbia University in New York City awarded the 2011 *The Legend* yearbook the prestigious Crown Award. The award is the equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize for yearbooks and is the first for Socorro ISD. Only five El Paso schools have received the Crown Award since CSPA began to give them out in 1982.

The 2012 Crown Award recipients were chosen from a total of 1,351 scholastic newspapers, magazines and yearbooks published last school year. A panel of 10 judges selected the 66 yearbooks to receive the national award. The judges are experienced former advisers to student media, professional journalists who understand student media and industry professionals with particular expertise needed for the judging exercise.

The panel considered all aspects of value to the yearbook reader: content, design or presentation,

coverage, photography as well as writing and editing.

"It sounds like a cliché," senior Celeste Compean said. Compean was a staff member in last year's yearbook staff and is one of this year's editor-in-chiefs. "But after seeing the endless after school hours and thousands of key strokes pay off, it's like a kid in a candy store. Since Mr. Carlos Briano was hired at El Dorado, it has been a goal to get the Crown Award. Now that we've earned it, there's a lot of pressure to put out another yearbook that tops it."

According to senior Adrian Scott Flores, who was also in last year's staff and is the other editor-in-chief for 2012, getting the Crown Award has focused the current staff even more.

"My goal has always been to give my work 150%," he said. "Since joining last year's staff I wanted to help make this book something worth remembering. I still want to be able to create something that will always be looked back on. But for now, I want to take this yearbook and leave it better than when it was passed down to us."

Briano and the five remaining students from last year's staff will attend the CSPA convention at Columbia University March 14-16,



— Photo by Brandy Posada

**Moments after being inducted into the Walsworth Publishing Gallery of Excellence, the 2011 staff of *The Legend* is honored at the annual yearbook banquet. *The Legend* was the first yearbook in SISD history to receive the Crown Award from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.**

where they will take part in over 350 sessions about yearbook, online media and law and ethics. At the conclusion of the convention, the staff will receive the Crown Award. Buyers better hurry — it sells out every year.

## Briefs

From Page 1

2015. The board licenses veterinarians in Texas. Salazar-Harper is owner and president of M Rentals. She is a member of the Greater El Paso and Greater El Paso Hispanic chambers of Commerce, National Contract Managers Association, Professional Housing Managers Association, Texas Association of Rental Agencies, and the Association of Progressive Rental Organizations. She is also a founding member of the Paso Del Norte Association, and a past member of the Governor's Commission for Women and Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Advisory Council. Salazar-Harper attended the University of Texas at El Paso, Victoria Junior College and University of Phoenix, and completed the Tuck Executive Program at Dartmouth College.

— Lucy Nashed

## Tobacco

Tobacco companies continue to produce and market new smokeless tobacco products to attract new users and keep smokers addicted. In the past years cigarette companies have introduced new smokeless products. The most common are the snus products, which are small teabag like pouches containing tobacco and flavorings that users place between their gum and lip. R.J.Reynolds's Camel Snus and Philip Morris Snus are now sold nation wide in a variety of flavors. These products do not require spitting out tobacco juice and their use can be easily concealed. The problem with smokeless tobacco is that it is not a

safe alternative to smoking. According to the CDC, smokeless tobacco use can lead to oral cancer, gum disease, nicotine addiction and cardiovascular disease. Repeated exposure to tobacco juice causes cancer of the esophagus, larynx, pharynx and pancreas. Regardless of the product there is no safe form of tobacco use.

— Victor Parra

## Crime Stoppers

Someone brutally murders a 71-year-old woman in her own home, and you may hold the key to unlocking this case. Crime Stoppers and the Police Department's Crimes Against Persons Office are requesting any assistance with one of our city's cold-case homicides. On Friday, July 20, 2007, the body of 71-year-old Joyce Villalobos was found in her residence at 3804 Cambridge. Villalobos, a retired schoolteacher, suffered a violent death sometime during the afternoon or early evening hours that day. Investigators are asking if neighbors noticed anything unusual that day. Perhaps someone saw a suspicious person or persons hanging around the area? Maybe there was a suspicious vehicle circling around. If you have any information at all about this case, please call Crime Stoppers at 566-TIPS (566-8477) or on-line at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You can remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you can qualify for a cash reward.

— James Klaes

## Wanted I

City of Socorro Police want to track down and arrest a lower Valley man accused of aggravated Sexual Assault of a Child. Jose Rios, 30, is the subject of a Socorro Search.



**Jose Rios**

"What makes this case worse is that now it appears this man is actively hunting down his former victim," said Lt. Joe Alvarez. In January the child cried out to someone at her school. City of Socorro Detectives obtained a warrant and started a Socorro Search. He's managed to stay ahead of Detectives, but the latest reports indicate he's still in the area and someone has to know where he is and what he's doing. City of Socorro Police Department Detectives have since found out Rios has been seen searching for the child at her school in the City of Socorro. If you know anything to stop this man from hunting down his victim please call the Police. In the City of Socorro that number is 858-6986

— David Garcia

## Wanted II

Jose Alberto Rivera, 34, also known as Jose Alvarez and Alberto Alvarez, is this week's Manhunt Monday target. He is 6' tall and weighs 310 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes. Rivera has multiple tattoos on his chest and arms. On Saturday Feb. 25, 2012 at 10:30 a.m., Sheriff's Deputies were called to an apartment complex in San Elizario for an Aggravated Assault. Officials met with the victim who told detectives he was to meet



**Jose Rivera**

a female at some apartments nearby. After meeting with the female in the parking lot of the apartment complex, a black Jetta drove up and stopped next to the victim's vehicle. Two male subjects exited the Jetta and approached the victim's vehicle. The driver of the Jetta opened the door to the victim's car and removed the keys from the ignition then pulled a handgun from his waistband and threatened the victim. The passenger of the Jetta also displayed a handgun during the incident. The victim observed a vehicle passing through the complex parking lot, jumped out of his car shoving the suspect driver out of the way running towards the vehicle. Luckily, the vehicle stopped and gave the victim a ride away from the apartment complex. The victim then called 911. Through the course of their investigation, Crime Against Persons Detectives were able to identify the assailants as Cesar Contreras, 35, as

the driver and Rivera as the passenger. Contreras has arrested on a charge of Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon. Rivera is wanted on the same charge. He has an extensive criminal history and multiple addresses around El Paso. If anyone has seen or has any information on the whereabouts of Rivera they can contact Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (8477). Callers will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward if the information provided leads to the apprehension of Rivera.

— Deputy Jesse Tovar

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D	O	N	E	L	E	C	T	A	D	A	R	E	B	E	L	E
E	N	D	I	V	E	A	R	I	Z	O	N	A	L	L	U	R
G	A	V	E	K	R	O	N	A	G	R	A	S	L	I	E	R
E	A	N	Z	O	T	R	A	D	S	P	O	P	P	L	E	E
H	A	M	S	T	E	R	S	E	A	P	E	P	P	L	E	E
O	T	A	B	E	E	N	A	P	A	L	E	E	E	L	E	E
S	A	F	E	C	R	A	K	E	R	H	O	S	P	L	A	Y
E	L	I	S	H	A	O	L	E	O	L	E	O	M	R	D	E
S	L	A	T	E	Y	N	X	Y	E	L	L	D	A	N	E	E

## CryptoQuip Answer

If a roof worker sets down his beverage, I guess the drink will be on the house.

6	x	4	-	8	16
÷		x			÷
2	x	3	+	8	14
+		+			+
7	-	5	x	9	18
10		17		10	

**Award**

From Page 1

School in Socorro ISD.

"America's long-term economic prosperity and civic engagement depends on our children receiving a world-class education," said U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. "National Blue Ribbon Schools are committed to accelerating student achievement and preparing students for success in college and careers. Their success is an example for others to follow."

Before selecting National Blue Ribbon Schools, the Department asks for nominations from the top education official in every state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, the Department of Defense Education Activity and the Bureau of Indian Education. The Council for American Private Education (CAPE) nominates private schools.

A total of 413 schools nationwide are nominated, based on the number of K-12 students and the number of schools in each jurisdiction. The schools are invited by the Secretary of Education to submit an application for possible recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School.

Blue Ribbon Schools are nationally recognized as some of America's most successful schools. The award acknowledges and validates the hard work of students, staff members, families, and communities in reaching high levels

**Garden**

From Page 1

Adult Learning Center for the garden. The parcel of land has already been prepared, aerified, and leveled. The raised beds for the garden are being built by students from San Elizario High School's construction technology classes under the direction of teacher Rafael Cardoza. The district's Support Services Department will be providing grounds expertise and skilled labor to implement the irrigation system for the garden. However, there are still many needs left to fill and SEISD is actively seeking partners to provide assistance with additional funds or materials.

Once established and thriving, the garden will bring many benefits to the San Elizario community such revitalizing and beautifying the neighborhood; providing nutritious, local produce; and serving as a teaching tool for schools. Ernesto Rodriguez, Executive Director of the district's Research and Development, stated that all SEISD elementary schools will be participating in the project including staff, parents, and other businesses and organizations.

"The school district is creating opportunities for school children to discover fresh food, make healthier choices and become stewards of the environment," Rodriguez added.

The next step in helping the garden flourish will be recruiting volunteers, forming a planning committee to establish a protocol for the operation of the garden, providing and receiving training, and securing resources. If you would like to assist SEISD with a contribution of funds or materials for the community garden or just to lend a hand, contact Ernesto Rodriguez at 872-3939 ext. 3567.

of student achievement.

Blue Ribbon Schools report a renewed sense of pride and accomplishment at their school.

They may be sought out as mentors to others schools or may find that receiving grants and raising funds is a little easier.

Communities often report that the award makes their neighborhood a more desirable place to live because parents want their children to attend

a Blue Ribbon School – and real estate agents use the Blue Ribbon award as a selling point for those neighborhoods.

**Classified Ads****LEGALS****ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS****Base Bid B – Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Funds**

**VILLAGE OF VINTON, TEXAS**  
436 VINTON RD  
VINTON, TEXAS  
79821

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT #710711**

**VINTON, TEXAS – VINTON CITY PARK**

Separate and sealed bids for the VINTON, TEXAS – VINTON CITY PARK project in Vinton, Texas will be received at the Village Hall, located in Vinton, Texas at 436 E. Vinton Rd, Vinton, Texas 79821, or by mail to the Village Hall until **2:00 P.M., local time, March 29, 2012**; and at that time and place, will be publicly opened and read aloud. The project is being funded by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs (TDA-ORA) – Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), **Contract No. 710711** and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), **Contract No. 50-000450**.

Bids are invited for the Base Bids and quantities of work as follows:

**Base Bid A – Texas Department of Agriculture, Office of Rural Affairs (TDA-ORA) Funds**

The work under Base Bid A shall be for furnishing and installing all labor, tools, material, transportation, and any services necessary for the complete construction of 3 concrete stairways, approximately 1,065 square yards of side walk (including ramps), three 6-inch reinforced concrete slabs, electrical lighting and power improvements and an irrigation system.

A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on **March 20, 2012 at 10:00 A.M.** at the Village Hall in the Village of Vinton, Texas. A site tour will be held after the pre-bid meeting to allow bidders to familiarize themselves with on-site conditions.

Each Bid shall be submitted in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders and be accompanied by a Bid Bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the amount bid, by an acceptable bid surety. A certified check or bank

**NOTICE ESTABLISHING OFFICES AND MEETING PLACES OF PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 10**

**TO THE RESIDENTS OF PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 10 OF EL PASO COUNTY AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES: TAKE NOTICE** that in accordance with V.T.C.A. Water Code § 49.062, the Board of Directors of Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 10 of El Paso County (the "District") has on February 7, 2012, formally established offices and meeting places for the District that are outside the boundaries of the District. A District office is hereby established at the offices of TRE & Associates, LLC, 801 North El Paso Street, Suite 150, El Paso, Texas 79902 and at the offices of TRE & Associates, LLC, 5524 Bee Cave Road, Suite E-2, Austin, Texas 78746. The Board confirms the previous establishment of District offices at the office of SouthWest Water Company, 12350 Montwood Drive, Suite 100, El Paso, Texas 79928; the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 North Mesa Street, El Paso, Texas 79902; and the offices of Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., 816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701. These offices are established for the purposes of conducting the business of the District and maintaining certain records of the District. Said offices are hereby declared to be public places and open to the public.

A meeting place of the Board outside the District is hereby established at the offices of TRE & Associates, LLC, 801 North El Paso Street, Suite 150, El Paso, Texas 79902. The Board confirms the previous establishment of District meeting places outside the boundaries of the District at the offices of SouthWest Water Company, 12350 Montwood Drive, Suite 100, El Paso, Texas 79928; the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 North Mesa Street, El Paso, Texas 79902; and the offices of Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., 816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701. Said offices are hereby declared to be public places and the public is invited to attend any meeting of the Board.

**YOU WILL THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE OF THE FOREGOING FACTS.**

PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 10 OF EL PASO COUNTY  
BY: /s Luis Ortega, President  
ATTEST: /s B. D. Reynolds, Jr., Secretary

WTCC: 03-08-12

**NOTICE ESTABLISHING OFFICES AND MEETING PLACES OF PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 11**

**TO THE RESIDENTS OF PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 11 OF EL PASO COUNTY AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES: TAKE NOTICE** that in accordance with V.T.C.A. Water Code § 49.062, the Board of Directors of Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 11 of El Paso County (the "District") has on February 9, 2012, formally established offices and meeting places for the District that are outside the boundaries of the District. A District office is hereby established at the offices of TRE & Associates, LLC, 801 North El Paso Street, Suite 150, El Paso, Texas 79902 and at the offices of TRE & Associates, LLC, 5524 Bee Cave Road, Suite E-2, Austin, Texas 78746. The Board confirms the previous establishment of District offices at the office of SouthWest Water Company, 12350 Montwood Drive, Suite 100, El Paso, Texas 79928; the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 North Mesa Street, El Paso, Texas 79902; and the offices of Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., 816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1900, Austin, Texas 78701. These offices are established for the purposes of conducting the business of the District and maintaining certain records of the District. Said offices are hereby declared to be public places and open to the public.

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**YOU WILL THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE OF THE FOREGOING FACTS.**

PASEO DEL ESTE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 11 OF EL PASO COUNTY  
BY: /s Curtis R. Sellers, President  
ATTEST: /s Darwin Voge, Secretary

WTCC: 03-08-12

Action and Equal Opportunity Employer. Small, Minority and Female Owned firms are encouraged to submit Bids for this project.

WTCC: 03-08-12

**Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District****Invitation to Bid**

The Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District is now accepting sealed bids for the surplus building and property located at 1539 Pawling Drive (Legal Description HORIZON MANOR #1, SEC OF BLK 1, Prop ID 7910010010001B), within the city limits

of Horizon City. This property is sold as is and subject to an existing lease which expires December 31, 2012. A copy of the lease can be obtained at the HRMUD office at 14100 Horizon Boulevard, Horizon City, Texas or by calling 852-3557.

Interested bidders may arrange for an inspection of the property during normal business hours by contacting the HRMUD Manager.

WTCC: 03-08-12

**1539 Pawling** readily visible on the exterior of the envelope. HRMUD reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, or to negotiate with the highest bidder.

Interested bidders may arrange for an inspection of the property during normal business hours by contacting the HRMUD Manager.

WTCC: 03-08-12

**DRIVERS**  
OTR. Good Pay & Benefits. CDL-A, Tank Endorsements. 2yr Exp. Steady Work, Assigned Trucks. 800-469-7714. www.wdtmilk.com.

WTCC: 03-08-12

**Buckle up every rider for every trip.**

State law now requires both adults and children to be buckled up in the front or back seat. A child less than 8 years old, unless taller than 4 feet 9 inches, must ride in a child safety seat. Most children between 4 and 8 years old will need a booster seat to be safe and comply with the law. Fines range from \$25 to \$250, plus court costs. [TexasClickItOrTicket.com](http://TexasClickItOrTicket.com)



Click It or Ticket

TEXAS

**Click It or Ticket.****Even in the back seat.**

# Miners in Conference USA tourney, peeking at next year

**By Steve Escajeda**  
Special to the Courier

Another UTEP basketball regular season has come and gone and this year's was not one of the more successful campaigns.

But we all knew that coming in.

With so many freshman, sophomores and juniors transfers, everyone knew it was going to be tough for the Miners to compete with Conference USA veterans – let alone win any titles.

As bad as the Miners looked at the beginning of the season, they quickly adopted the Tim Floyd principles of basketball and pulled off a few impressive upsets.

Wins over Memphis, Southern Mississippi, New Mexico State, Clemson, Auburn and Tulsa gave all Miner fans a glimpse of how good this team can be in the future.

But this season's Miners were an up-and-down bunch.

And one of Tim Floyd's biggest pet peeves is the lack of consistency.

The Miners started the season losing to some real weak teams. Then they knocked off

some tough teams.

Then they lost a few gut-wrenching last-second conference games. Then they pulled off a four-game winning streak defeating some first-place teams in the process.

Then they played really poorly down the stretch going into this week's conference tournament.

UTEP will take on Houston in Wednesday's first-round game. If the Miners are lucky enough to beat Houston they'll have the pleasure of taking on top-ranked Memphis on their home court.

Even though the Miners defeated Memphis last month, it would be quite a task to ask them to do it again.

It's too bad that the Miners ended the regular season the way they did. They played without very much gusto against and Rice and SMU.

Things were so bad after their loss to Central Florida, Floyd decided to sit Mike Perez, Julian Washburn, Gabe McCulley and John Bohannon for the first six minutes of the Rice game.

Floyd said he didn't like the way some of the players responded to the loss to UCF, and the resulting practices didn't do much to

restore his good humor.

There's no doubt that this was one of Tim Floyd's most challenging seasons. He's taken a completely new set of individuals and slowly but surely molded them into a team.

Next season he will get an influx of height and talent that should help the Miners win over 20 games and a possible invitation to the NCAA Tournament or the NIT.

The next superstar on the UTEP horizon is guard/forward Julian Washburn. With a dangerous mid-and long-range shooting game, Washburn (6-foot-7) is almost guaranteed to average about 15 points a game next season.

Not bad for a guy who is also considered the team's best defensive player.

The added comfort of having his younger but bigger brother (6-foot-9) Chris Washburn Jr. here next season can only enhance the Miners' chances of success.

The addition of 6-6 freshman-to-be forward Twymond Howard gives the Miners another scorer who can shoot the ball and contribute under the boards.

The only place where the Miners appear to be vulnerable is at the point guard position and at center.

Jacques Streeter is an adequate point guard but not a consistent shooter or a guy who can drive the lane whenever he wants. Hopefully that part of his game will evolve next season.

The Miners have plenty of 6-7 to 6-9 guys but other than Cedrick Lang, there isn't a whole lot of width to go along with that height.

If Floyd can put another 30 pounds of muscle on Bohannon, then the Miners would be able to battle inside with anyone in the country.

So another UTEP basketball season will probably come to and end this week in Memphis.

Writing this on Sunday, I have no idea how the Miners did at the tournament.

Being a long-time UTEP fan, I hope they stun everyone and win the darn thing. But I'm also realistic and the way they've been playing, they'll be lucky to have a chance at Memphis.

But all season long, just when you thought this team was about to lie down and die – it managed to fool you by pulling off an amazing effort.

Do they have any more rabbits to pull out of their hats? I don't think so.

But I've been fooled before.

**A sporting view** By Mark Vasto

## Daytona's wring of fire

Two days of hand wringing, head ringing and jet-fuel flinging burned down to a pretty exciting race in Daytona this year.

The Daytona 500 was kicked around in the rain, and ratings were down. As expected, Danica Patrick hijacked much of the pre-race coverage. Dale Earnhardt Jr. mounted an exciting comeback in the race, nearly passing eventual

winner Matt Kenseth.

The finish buoyed fans of Earnhardt Jr. who hope the finish will translate into a strong 2012 season for the driver. Earnhardt Jr., in post-race comments, was able to show that he, too, was looking forward to the future and not content with second-place finishes.

"You know, you do want to come in here and make sure the press knows

that you wanted to win the race, because the press is going to tell the fans what you thought, and you don't want to give anyone the impression that you are fine running second, because I'm not," Earnhardt said.

His compassion extended to Kenseth's future as well.

"I'm happy for Matt," he said. "He's going to need that for his college fund." (Presumably the comment was an allusion to the 39-year-old Kenseth's two young daughters.)

As for Kenseth, the 2012 win pretty much locks him in as one of the sport's all-time greatest rain-delayed

Daytona winners. Kenseth won the 2009 Daytona 500, a race that saw 48 laps shaved off the back end.

This race, however, was anything but short. Delayed by rain Sunday, the race began Monday night and saw its first crash after the first lap. Then, in lap 160, under a caution flag, Juan Pablo Montoya slammed into a truck filled with 200 gallons of jet fuel, stopping the race for another two hours. Kenseth wasn't given the Harvey J. Early trophy until early Tuesday morning.

But just as Patrick dominated pre-race coverage, it was Brad Keselowski who garnered most of the post-race buzz over the interwebs. Keselowski, it would seem, became the first NASCAR driver to ever tweet from his car. Keselowski went on to finish in 32nd in the race, but according to

Time magazine, he saw his Twitter following jump from 60,000 to more than 200,000 the next day.

As for Patrick, she still managed to find her name in the headlines for finishing 38th in the race. For the attention-getting race diva, she found herself in a different circumstance after her Elite Series debut – avoiding the limelight.

"As it got later and later in the race, I just didn't want to play a part," Patrick said. "I didn't want to have an influence on it. I didn't want something to happen."

Rain, jet fuel, Twitter and the sport's all-time-leading sex symbol – that's the story two days in the wringing from Daytona.

*Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.*

**UTEP ATHLETICS SOFTBALL**

March 2 vs. UTSA 12:00 pm  
vs. Brown 4:00 pm

March 3 vs. Iowa State 11:30 pm  
vs. Brown 4:00 pm

March 4 vs. Valparaiso 11:00 pm  
vs. UTSA 1:00 pm

March 6 vs. Evansville 3:00 pm  
vs. Evansville 5:00 pm

March 7 vs. Evansville 1:00 pm  
vs. Evansville 3:00 pm

March 10 vs. Southern Miss 2:00 pm  
vs. Southern Miss 4:00 pm

March 11 vs. Southern Miss 12:00 pm

\*All games at Helen of Troy Field

**utepathletics.com**

## Canutillo ISD picks architect, contractor

**By Gustavo Reveles Acosta**  
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO – The first steps toward the construction of a new Elementary/Middle School campus in the Canutillo Independent School District were taken last week when the Board of Trustees signed an architectural design contract and retained a contractor to serve as construction manager at risk.

The Board voted unanimously to sign a contract with the El Paso architectural firm of Carl Daniel. The firm will begin an extensive process to design the yet-to-be-named pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade school that will be built in the Cimarron subdivision of Northwest El Paso. This will be Canutillo's first school located east of Interstate 10.

"We are very happy to start work on what will be a wonderful addition to our Canutillo family," said Board President Laure Searls. "The Canutillo school district is growing fast, and it's imperative that we move forward to meet the needs of the families that are moving into our school district."

The school was funded through Decision Canutillo 2011, the bond election voters approved last May. The campus is slated to open in the fall of 2014. The PK-8 platform, which is new to Canutillo, will give students in these neighborhoods a smooth transition between elementary and middle school grades.

As part of the design process, Carl Daniel architects and Canutillo officials will spend a significant amount of time drafting the necessary features for the new campus, and gathering community input into the design and look of the school.

The Board also voted to retain the El Paso firm of Venegas Engineering Management and Construction (Vemac) as the construction manager at risk for the Elementary/Middle School campus. Vemac will be charged with the construction and completion of the building once the design phase is completed.

"The trust of the voters was placed on us to deliver a quality school building that continues the tradition of excellence in the Canutillo Independent School District," said Superintendent Dr. Damon Murphy. "I'm confident that these two companies will help us achieve that goal."

## Comix

### OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



THE ROCK CUTS  
PAPER WITH SCISSORS.

KOPERVAS

### AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



### THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



### R.F.D. By Mike Marland



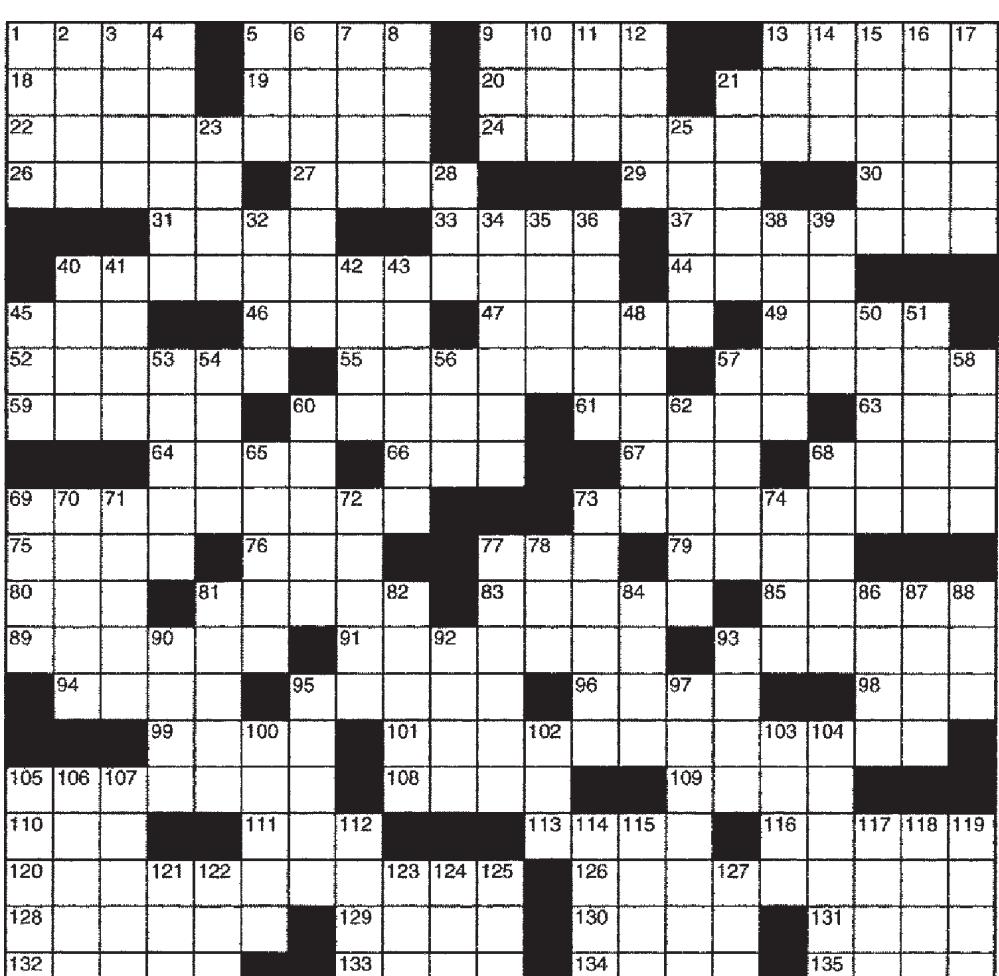
## Super Crossword

**STRICTLY SPEAKING**

<b>ACROSS</b>	64 To boot	snack?	Nastase	82 Latin class no-nos
1 Summer stinger	66 Spud bud	126 "Equus," for instance?	34 Moss Hart's autobiography	84 Scratches the surface
5 Sailor's quaff	67 Bulldog, for one	128 Inventor Otis	35 " _ Game" ('71 film)	86 Zodiac animal
9 In the sack	68 "Blame _ Rio"	129 Dingy digs	36 Up and about	87 Buffalo waterfront
13 Master, in Madras	('84 film)	130 Pat on the buns?	38 Requests	88 Actor Horsley
18 "Dies _ "	69 Capone	131 Kuwaiti ruler	39 Ain't right?	90 Currier's partner
19 Melodious	impersonator?	132 Blackboard	40 Spanish sherry	92 Memo start
McEntire	73 Hire a private eye?	133 Type of chalcedony	41 Author Dinesen	93 On a whale watch, perhaps
20 _ Valley, CA	75 Landed	134 Holler	42 "Peter Pan" pirate	95 Asian nation
21 Walked confidently	76 Palm Sunday	135 Odense denizen	43 Tried a mouthful	97 Clothes
22 Tenured?	animal		45 "What?"	100 African equine
24 Ex-wife, sometimes?	77 Humbug lead-in		48 Crack up	102 Quayle or Blocker
26 Roman official	79 Act like an antelope		50 Proclamations	103 Eye appreciatively
27 Umps	80 Oxford figure		51 A nose that shows	104 Acted like a chick
29 Bus. bigwig	81 Vote in		53 Coat-of-arms figure	105 Garden supplies
30 Plant part	83 "Watership Down"		54 Lovett or Waggoner	106 In the slightest degree
31 Writer Blyton	author		56 Italian greyhound, e.g.	107 "GoodFellas" group
33 Tabula _	85 Defy a dictator		57 Ignoramus	112 Return address?
37 At full tilt	89 Salad veggie		58 Used up	114 "Hi, sailor!"
40 Violin bows?	91 Geronimo's birthplace		60 Gaggle gal	115 Battery part
44 Evils	93 Draw		62 Wood and gas	117 _ mater
45 Terry-cloth inscription	94 Donated		65 Sedimentary stuff	118 Self-smitten
46 Cookbook author	95 Swedish currency		68 Force	119 Thornfield governess
Rombauer	96 Mardi _		69 Lose luster	121 Cornerstone abbr.
47 Deed	98 It may be white		70 " _ Comes Mary" ('66 song)	122 "Evita" character
49 Wraps up	99 Signor Ferrari		71 Dano or Darnell	123 " _ -Tiki"
52 Incompetent	101 Stockbrokers?		72 Messy Madison	124 TV Tarzan
55 Neighbor of Latvia	105 Petite pet		73 Nickels and dimes	125 King's handle?
57 TV's "The _ Game"	108 Blood components		74 Designer	127 Costa del _
59 Melodramatic	109 Kid at court		77 Church sale	
60 Progress	110 Former govt. agcy.		78 Bustle	
61 Chaka Khan's group	111 Carpenter _		81 Happening	
63 Pigeon English?	113 Wine valley			
	116 Exit			
	117 FDA-approved			

**DOWN**

1 Man's altar ego?	58 Oxford figure	101 "GoodFellas" group	112 Return address?
2 Like the Kalahari	81 Vote in	59 Garden supplies	114 "Hi, sailor!"
3 Agra attire	83 "Watership Down"	60 In the slightest degree	115 Battery part
4 Prepared a pineapple	author	61 "GoodFellas" group	117 _ mater
5 Whippet's warning	95 Swedish currency	62 Wood and gas	118 Self-smitten
6 Keep the shelves stocked	96 Mardi _	65 Sedimentary stuff	119 Thornfield governess
7 Crumhorn cousin	98 It may be white	68 Force	121 Cornerstone abbr.
8 Sail support	99 Signor Ferrari	69 Lose luster	122 "Evita" character
9 Furniture wood	101 Stockbrokers?	70 " _ Comes Mary" ('66 song)	123 " _ -Tiki"
10 Jacket info	105 Petite pet	71 Dano or Darnell	124 TV Tarzan
11 Big bird	108 Blood components	72 Messy Madison	125 King's handle?
12 brakes	109 Kid at court	73 Nickels and dimes	127 Costa del _
13 Canonized Mlle.	110 Former govt. agcy.	74 Designer	
14 " _ you for real?"	111 Carpenter _	77 Church sale	
15 Was an optimist	113 Wine valley	78 Bustle	
16 Unimprovable	116 Exit	81 Happening	
17 Juicy fruit	120 FDA-approved		
21 Toast word			
23 Await judgment			
25 Macabre			
28 _ Lanka			
32 Tennis pro			



Answer Page 4

## Your good health

By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

**DEAR DR. DONOHUE:** I have had headaches since I was 12. I am now 32. I hear people talk about their migraine headaches and wonder if I might have them. What makes a headache a migraine headache? I take aspirin for my headaches. It helps, but not all that much. Are there special medicines for migraines? — K.D.

stomach along with the headache. Not all migraine headaches produce all the signs and symptoms I mentioned, but if you have more than two of these characteristic symptoms, it's a good bet that you suffer from migraines.

The booklet on headaches describes the common kinds and their treatment. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue — No. 901W, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Canada with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

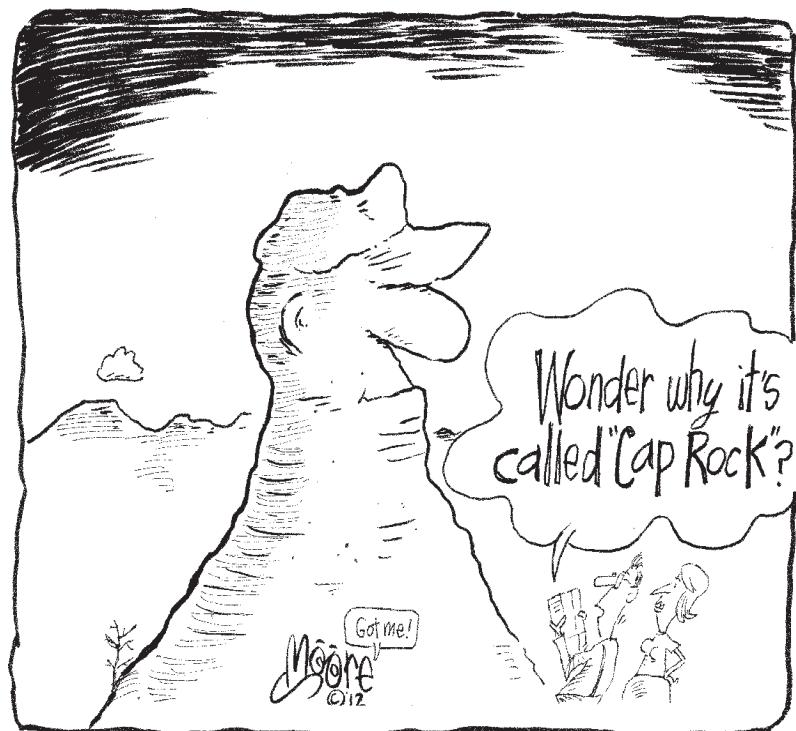
**DEAR DR. DONOHUE:** Many of my friends take aspirin for the prevention of a heart attack or stroke. I decided I should join them. Is this a wise move? — K.H.

Aspirin and similar drugs are the rule for prevention of heart attacks and certain strokes. The aspirin dose in greatest use is 81 mg — low-dose aspirin. Three different regimens for the prevention of stroke are acceptable: Plavix, aspirin or aspirin combined with sustained-release dipyridamole. The aspirin-dipyridamole combination comes in one tablet called Aggrenox. Note that these are for prevention of second heart attacks and strokes.

For the prevention of a first heart attack or stroke, patients should consult their doctor, who will evaluate each patient's risk. Based on that, the doctor will recommend a regimen that's appropriate. It's not a good idea to self-medicate with any medicine.

*Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. (c) 2012 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved.*

## Moore Texas by Roger Moore At 15,000 acres, the CAPROCK CANYON State Park is big enough to be its' own country. Texas IS grand!



### GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

**DIFFICULTY:** ★★

\* Moderate ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	x	-	16
÷	x	÷	
	x	+	14
+	+	+	
	-	x	18
10	17	10	

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 8 9

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Answer Page 4

### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	8				7	5	1	
		2		1	4			7
3		7	5			2		
5	4			3				9
		6			8	3		1
	3		9	6			8	
4			7	8			6	
1					3	8		4
	6	3	1				9	

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

Answer Page 4

★★★ HOO BOY!

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### Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

**Q:** I live in a hurricane zone and there's always a good chance I'll have to evacuate. What should I do if I'm expecting my check and a hurricane disrupts the mail?

**A:** To avoid this situation altogether, get your payments sent electronically. Direct Deposit and Direct Express are the fast, easy and secure ways to receive your benefit payment. For more information, see [www.socialsecurity.gov/deposit](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/deposit).

**Q:** Will my son be eligible to receive benefits on his retired father's record while going to college?

**A:** No. At one time, Social Security did pay benefits to eligible college students. But the law changed in 1981. We now pay benefits only to students taking courses at grade 12 or below. Normally, benefits stop when children reach age 18 unless they are disabled. However, if children are still full-time students at a secondary (or elementary) school at age 18, benefits generally can continue until they graduate or until two months after they reach age 19, whichever is first. If your child is still going to be in school at age 19, you'll want to visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/schools](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/schools).

**Q:** How do I obtain a copy of the form, Application for Help with

Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs?

**A:** If you wish to apply for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug plan costs, we recommend you use our online application at [www.socialsecurity.gov/i1020/](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/i1020/). Meanwhile, you can view a sample at [www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp). There, you also can find instruction sheets in 15 different languages to help you understand the English application. Soon, the online application also will be available in Spanish. If you prefer not to fill out this application on the Internet, you can call our toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213, to ask for a paper application. Also, you can make an appointment at your local Social Security office to apply for Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug plan costs. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, call our toll-free TTY number, 1-800-325-0778. Representatives are available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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.

### CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: W equals H

GM S KNNM XNKIFK BFYB ONXR

WGB HFJFKSQF, G QCFBB YWF

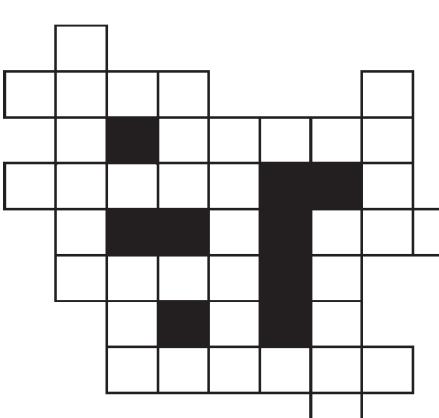
OKGRI XGUU HF NR YWF WNCFB.

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♥ NYA  
NARVLE  
LAYEL  
YAST  
♥ RAYPLE  
♥ PMA  
♥ RYNA  
PIRET  
♥ EAY  
LEYDLE  
RAVET  
EDME



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Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked ( ♥ ) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

### STRANGE BUT TRUE By Samantha Weaver

- It's still not known who made this sage observation: "Wisdom is divided into two parts: a) having a great deal to say, and b) not saying it."

- In 1931, the Newspaper Enterprise Association predicted that crime would be nearly gone in 20 years.

- Do you subscribe to the adage "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet"? Consider this: Would that teen heartthrob of an earlier day, Bobby Darin, have become so popular if he had been known by his given name, Walden Cassotto?

- At one time, Canada's CBC network banned the children's cartoon "Rocky and Bullwinkle" because of its sometimes unflattering portrayal of the Mounties.

- The Goodrich company, known primarily for its tires, also invented the first modern golf ball.

- Sometimes scientists get to express their creativity when they have the opportunity to name things. Take deep-sea sites, for example: in the North Atlantic is the Porcupine Abysmal Plain, Clam Acres is off the west coast of Mexico, and there's a site near the Galapagos Islands called Hole-to-Hell.

- Those who study such things have found that a sneeze leaves your mouth at more than 100 m.p.h.

- Donald Duck's middle name is "Fauntleroy."

- The game of chess originated in India in about 2,000 B.C. – it was called "chaturanga." And it didn't look quite like the modern version that is played all over the world today. Chaturanga had only four kinds of pieces: elephants, chariots, horses and foot soldiers.

- A Rochester, Mich., law states that anyone who is bathing in public must be wearing a bathing suit that has been inspected by a police officer.

Thought for the Day: "You may do foolish things, but do them with enthusiasm."

– Colette

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