



NEWSBRIEFS

Water workshop

On average, it rains only 48 days a year in El Paso. But did you know you can easily make those rainy days last for weeks – or even months? On Saturday, Aug. 18, at 10:30 a.m., El Paso Water Utilities (EPWU) will host a free workshop at the Tech2O Water Resources Learning Center explaining how to do just that. Texas AgriLife Master Gardener Doc Stalker will teach you how to properly harvest, store and use our region's rare rainfall. Rainwater harvesting not only helps conserve water, it can also decrease your water bill and make your plants healthier. Join EPWU for solutions large and small that can help make any El Paso landscape a little more green. For more information, visit Tech2O.org and click on the events page or call (915) 621-2000. The Tech2O Center is adjacent to the Kay Bailey Hutchison Desalination Plant at 10751 Montana Ave. in East El Paso. El Pasoans can stay up-to-date on events at the Tech2O Center by texting "EPWater" to 22828.

– Martin Bartlett

Canutillo ISD

Registration for new students to Canutillo High School will be held from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. through Friday, August 17. Mandatory registration for all returning students will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., beginning August 20. Students will register and receive their schedule according to their last name. Students whose last name begins with:

- A through D will receive schedules on Monday, August 20;
- E through L will receive schedules on Tuesday, August 21;
- M through Q will receive schedules on Wednesday, August 22;
- R through Z may pick up their schedules on Thursday, August 23; and
- Make up day for any students who missed their scheduled day is Friday, August 24.

Canutillo Independent School District students begin classes on Monday, August 27. For more information, call 877-7882.

– Kim Guzman

Fabens ISD

The Fabens Independent School District (ISD) Special Education Department received the highest rating possible, "Meets Requirements" under the 2012 Local Education Agency Determination Process. For the last couple of years the district has received an annual determination about the performance of the District's Special Education Program. In the determination process various district elements are reviewed, some of which include performance on compliance issues; whether the special education data

See BRIEFS, Page 5

If you think getting an education is expensive, try not getting one.

– Quips & Quotes



TRAGIC TOWN – When Mount Vesuvius erupted cataclysmically in the summer of A.D. 79, the nearby Roman town of Pompeii was buried under several feet of ash and rock. The ruined city remained frozen in time until it was discovered by a surveying engineer in 1748.

Professor shares findings about Pompeii

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – It took 19 hours for Pompeii to be buried under 9 feet of volcanic ash. It wasn't until 1748, nearly 1,700 years later, that archaeologists began to slowly uncover the ancient city that was frozen in time.

About three-fifths of the city has been liberated from the solidified volcanic ash and pumice that engulfed it. But many questions remain unanswered. What was life like before the eruption? What exactly did happen that summer day in A.D. 79?



– Photo courtesy El Paso Museum of Archaeology

Dr. Ronald Suci, professor of history at El Paso Community College, will give a presentation about the latest Pompeii findings at 2 p.m., Saturday, August 25, at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, 4301 Transmountain.

invites the public to join him in looking at the latest Pompeii findings to try to answer these types of questions.

Suci's presentation will be at 2 p.m.,

Saturday, August 25, at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, 4301 Transmountain. It will include an introduction and follow-up discussion in conjunction with the showing of the BBC docudrama, Pompeii the Last Day (2003). Admission is free.

According to Suci, Pompeii was covered beneath ash, pumice and other volcanic debris which demolished shops, villas, markets, thoroughfares and thousands of lives, and the preservation of the ruins provides a glimpse into the daily life of the Roman period known as Pax Romana and continues to fascinate us today.

Suci, who holds a Ph.D. in history from King's College at the University of London, is a tenured professor at EPCC and a member of the graduate faculty of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss.

The Pompeii presentation is the first in a series of the Muller Memorial Lectures which is sponsored by EPCC and dedicated to Gene Muller, deceased professor of history at EPCC.

For more information about this event, call 755-4332, send an email to guidamr@elpasotexas.gov, or visit the archeology museum's website at www.elpasotexas.gov/arch_museum/.

Flores-Salom honored by Region 19

By Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – Irene Flores-Salom, a teacher in the San Elizario Independent School District (SEISD), has high expectations for all students that walk into her classroom and she is dedicated to unlocking the potential within each child. Her ability to create a positive learning environment for all students is just one reason why she is quickly becoming an accomplished educator as well as the newly crowned Region 19 Elementary Teacher of the Year.

Salom received the honor on August 13 at the annual Region 19 Teacher of the Year Awards Gala held at the El Paso Convention Center. She was selected for the award from a group of 10 candidates nominated by area school districts and will represent the Region 19 service area at the Texas Teacher of the Year competition to take place this fall. Salom had previously been named the SEISD Elementary Teacher of the Year in May.

Surprisingly Salom had no intentions of pursuing a career in education and instead had hoped to join the corporate world. Even though she had loved working with Autistic children during college, she resisted being labeled a teacher. Life, however, had other plans for her as she quickly landed a job at SEISD and on her first day of leading a classroom realized that she had found her calling.

Salom credits the students that have passed through her classroom for inspiring her commitment to the teaching profession.

"What motivates me to come to work everyday is knowing that there is a classroom

See FLORES-SALOM, Page 4

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Tornillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 29, 2012 in the Administration Bldg., 19200 Cobb Ave., Tornillo, Texas 79853. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Table with 2 columns: Tax Category, Rate. Includes Maintenance Tax (\$1.090100/\$100) and School Debt Service Tax (\$0.213600/\$100).

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Table with 2 columns: Category, Change. Shows 1.90% Increase for Maintenance and Operations, 11.50% Decrease for Debt Service, and 0.90% Increase for Total Expenditures.

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

Table with 3 columns: Category, Preceding Tax Year, Current Tax Year. Shows values for total appraised and taxable values for all property and new property.

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code. ** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code. *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$19,338,121

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

Table with 5 columns: Category, Maintenance & Operation, Interest & Sinking Fund, Total, Local Revenue Per Student, State Revenue Per Student. Shows rates for Last Year, Rate to Maintain Same Level, Pay Debt Service, and Proposed Rate.

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levv with Last Year's Levv on Average Residence

Table with 3 columns: Category, Last Year, This Year. Shows Average Market Value, Average Taxable Value, Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate, Taxes Due, and Increase/Decrease in Taxes.

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.303700. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.303700.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Table with 2 columns: Fund Name, Balance. Shows Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) at \$3,225,745 and Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) at \$104,665.

Veterans Post By Freddy Groves

Rural cemeteries

Veterans in very rural areas have had little opportunity to arrange for burial in a national or state veterans cemetery. The Department of Veterans Affairs operates 131 national cemeteries, but they're in areas of high population. Current requirements say that there must be 80,000 veterans living within 75 miles for a cemetery to come under the auspices of the National Cemetery System.

Now, because of the Rural Initiative, eight areas will have local cemeteries established as National Veterans Burial Grounds. The new requirements are that there are no more than 25,000 veterans within 75 miles and that they have no reasonable access to a national or state veterans cemetery.

The eight new locations are Fargo, N.D.; Rhinelander, Wis.; Cheyenne, Wyo.; Laurel, Mont.; Idaho Falls, Idaho; Cedar City, Utah; Calais, Maine; and Elko, Nev. This opens up burial options for 136,000 veterans and their eligible dependents.

The new designations means that a portion, three to five acres, of existing local cemeteries will come under the care of the National Cemetery System and be brought up to the national shrine standards of the larger cemeteries.

Eligibility requirements for burial in a National Veterans Cemetery are lengthy and complicated, but at the top of the list are: Discharge under conditions other than dishonorable, or a service member who dies while on active duty. The specifics can be found at the VA's National Cemetery site [www.cem.va.gov].

If you'd like to explore having a National Veterans Burial Ground at a cemetery in your area, start by contacting your U.S representative and VA Secretary Eric Shinseki's office.

Write to Freddy Groves in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to columngroves@gmail.com. (c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

American Lung Association advertisement. Includes text: 'YOUR Gift IS A WAY TO CONQUER LUNG DISEASE', 'When you lose someone dear to you...', and website 'www.texaslung.org'.

West Texas County Courier logo and masthead information including publication date (1973-2012) and address.

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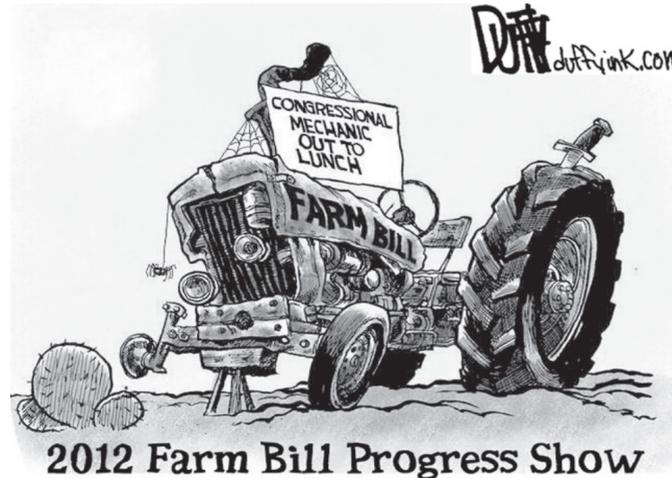
CLASSIFIED RATES: \$10 for 25 words, \$15 for 40 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The Courier reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Letters must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: Minimum 50 issues for \$36. Delivery via 1st class mail.

MAIL: 15344 Werling Ct. Horizon City, TX 79928

Homesteader News, Inc. contact information including phone (852-3235), fax (852-0123), website (wtxcc.com), and publisher (Rick Shrum).



Save on back-to-school shopping

By Jason Alderman Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – On the fun-o-meter, I'd probably rank back-to-school shopping right above getting a flu shot and preparing income taxes. Never mind the hassle of figuring out what our kids need for the coming school year and dragging them to the mall, it's just so expensive.

For example, our son insists that we replace his baseball glove and bat as he enters 7th grade. (He's right – his four-year-old mitt has seen better days.) Also, our daughter is starting soccer and needs cleats – good ones aren't cheap and footwear is one area where we refuse to scrimp.

Many years ago my wife and I learned our lesson and started setting aside money each month for the inevitable – and unexpected – expenses that crop up each fall. By trial and error – and sound advice from fellow parents – we've developed a back-to-school budgeting checklist:

First, calculate how much you can afford to spend on school-related expenses without blowing your overall budget or racking up debt. Scoring bargains won't help your bottom line if you end up paying interest on

unpaid balances. Next, make a comprehensive list of anticipated expenses for each child and build in a cushion for unexpected costs. Try these strategies:

- Examine previous years' bills and compare notes with other, more experienced parents.
• Ask the school which supplies they expect you to buy. Pool resources with other families to take advantage of volume discounts and sales.
• Spread clothing purchases throughout the year so your kids won't outgrow everything at once; plus you can take advantage of off-season sales.
• Review school dress codes so you don't waste money on inappropriate clothing.
• Before buying new clothing or accessories, look for "gently used" items in the closets of your older kids, friends and neighbors, at garage sales, thrift and consignment stores, and sites like Craig's List.
• Find out how much extracurricular activities (athletics, music, art, etc.) cost. Account for uniforms, membership dues, private lessons, field trips, snacks, etc.
• Compare the cost, convenience and nutritional value of school lunches and snacks

See SHOPPING, Page 7

2012 Property Tax Rates in El Paso County Emergency Services District #1

This notice concerns 2012 property tax rates for the El Paso County Emergency Services District #1. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years.

Table showing Last year's tax rate: Last year's operating taxes (\$1,255,455), Last year's debt taxes (\$108,992), Last year's total taxes (\$1,364,447), Last year's tax base (\$1,364,447,000), Last year's total tax rate (\$0.100000 / \$100).

Table showing This year's effective tax rate: Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property) (\$1,360,918), This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property) (\$1,367,094,924), This year's effective tax rate (\$0.099548 / \$100).

Table showing This year's rollback tax rate: Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for any transferred function, tax increment financing, state criminal justice mandate, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures) (\$1,252,208), This year's adjusted tax base (\$1,367,094,924), This year's effective operating rate (\$0.091596 / \$100), x 1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate (\$0.98923 / \$100), This year's debt rate (\$0.032801 / \$100), = This year's total rollback rate (\$0.131724 / \$100).

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the El Paso County Emergency Services District #1 adopts a 2012 tax rate equal to the effective tax rate of \$0.099548 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2011 taxes by \$49,896.

SCHEDULE A – Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Table showing Type of Property Tax Funds and Balance: Maintenance & Operation (M&O) (\$-), Debt Service (I&S) (\$-).

SCHEDULE B – 2012 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Table showing Description of Debt, Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes, Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes, Other Amounts to be Paid, and Total Payment. Includes rows for Vehicles, Fire Station, Total required for 2012 Debt Service, and Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2012.

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rates' calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 500 E. Overland Ave., Suite 101, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Name of person preparing this notice: Victor A. Flores, R.T.C. Title: El Paso County Tax Assessor-Collector Date prepared: August 8, 2012 (915) 546-2096 www.epcounty.com

Guillen, Marioni named San Eli ISD principals

Cynthia P. Marentes
Special to the Courier



Maribel Guillen

education field she hopes to lead the SEHS Eagles into a new era. Guillen is married to her husband Saul and has two daughters Claudia and Mary.

Although she is originally from Big Lake, TX recently appointed Garcia-Enriquez Middle School (GEMS) Principal April Soliz Marioni has spent the last 10 years as an educator and administrator at neighboring Clint ISD. Marioni served as the assistant principal at Clint Junior High School for the past four years prior to accepting a position with SEISD. She also worked as a teacher and instructional facilitator at the campus for six years bringing a total of 15 years of educational experience to her new role with the district.



Soliz Marioni

Marioni's immediate goal during her first year at GEMS is, "to build a community of learners and ensure high achievement for all students. Our staff and faculty will collaboratively strive to maximize academic success."

Marioni earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish and sociology as well as a master's degree in education guidance and counseling from Angelo State University. She is the mother of Myrna Portillo and Efrain Marioni Jr. and is married to Efrain Marioni.

SEISD is abuzz with energy with the addition of Maribel Guillen and April Marioni to its ranks and is excited to welcome them as the district heads back to school on August 27.

Perry won't expand Medicaid

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

TEXAS – According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 6.2 million Texans –one out of four– were uninsured in 2010. With Medicaid expansion and an insurance exchange to help residents and small businesses buy health coverage, Texas could cut the uninsured rate in half.

But Texas Governor Rick Perry stated recently that Texas would not participate in expansion of the state's Medicaid program through the Affordable Care Act, which was upheld as the law of the land by the Supreme Court in June.

The Affordable Care Act of 2010 created a new national Medicaid minimum eligibility level that covers most Americans with household income up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level. This new eligibility requirement is effective January 1, 2014.

The Supreme Court upheld the revised federal health care law, although it said the federal government could not withhold a state's entire Medicaid allotment if it did not expand Medicaid. And, the Court added that if a state chose not to set up a health care exchange (an online service for people to comparison shop for insurance) the federal government could establish one for that state.

Medicaid, a health care program for eligible individuals and families

with low incomes and resources, is jointly funded by the states and by the federal government. It is managed by the states, but the federal health law requires states to cover certain mandatory eligibility groups including qualified parents, children, and pregnant women with low income, as well as older adults and people with disabilities with low income. States have the flexibility to cover other optional eligibility groups and set eligibility criteria within the federal standards.

Texas is considered to be a big winner with the new law, because so many additional residents will have access to health insurance. However, because Texas must significantly expand its Medicaid program, it could face a big financial strain.

Supporters of the new law assert that Texas will benefit from efforts to slow health care inflation and billions of dollars in new federal spending on subsidies for the uninsured and on an array of programs like community health centers. However, even with more federal help, the challenge for Texas will be substantial because it currently offers only limited Medicaid coverage.

In Texas, Medicaid has been restricted to low-income families with children, pregnant women, certain people with disabilities and some elderly. The income cutoffs

See MEDICAID, Page 12



– Photos by Christy Flores-Jones/SISD

TOP PERFORMERS – El Dorado sophomores Felicienne Axel, left, and Olamide Olowe, right, are among the best track and field athletes in the nation. They competed in the United States Track and Field Junior Olympics from July 23-29 in Baltimore. They are coached by Macka Jones on the summer youth track team Texas Heat and at El Dorado High School.

Axel, Olowe compete in USTAF Junior Olympic track meet

By Christy Flores-Jones
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO ISD – Two El Dorado High School students displayed their talent and athleticism at the United States Track and Field Junior Olympics from July 23-29 at Hughes Stadium in Baltimore. Their outstanding performances earned them high rankings among the top track and field athletes in the nation.

El Dorado sophomore Felicienne Axel earned the top spot at the competition as the United States Track and Field Olympic Champion in the triple jump. She jumped 39'06", which was her personal best by a whole foot.

"In my head I just needed to float and enjoy the jump," said Felicienne Axel. "I just had to clear my mind. When I saw the number on the performance board I was so happy."

Olamide Olowe finished fifth at the national meet in the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.58 seconds, which earned her the status of All-American track and field athlete. Olowe said she was pleased with her performance since she had improved from the 49th spot where she finished in last year's competition.

"Coach (Macka) Jones helped me drop 2 seconds from my time," Olowe said. "My goal is to run a consistent 23 my junior year."

Macka Jones is the head track and cross country coach for El Dorado High School. He also volunteers his time as the coach of Texas Heat, the youth summer track team that Axel and Olowe competed on at the Junior Olympics meet.

"To see these girls develop and come along the way they have, shows how hard they are working," Jones said. "It's nice to see them represent the school, the school district and the city of El Paso."

Axel and Olowe will compete on El Dorado High School's varsity track team this school year.

"The way they are progressing shows they are truly elite athletes," Jones said.

The summer league has given the athletes a chance to improve their times and distances and has shown that they can compete on a national level, he said.

"Now that I know I can jump that far I have to make my standards a lot higher," Axel said.

Both athletes said they are eager to compete on the varsity team this year.

"We'll lead our team to district, regional and state," Olowe said.

Shopping

From Page 3

versus food you prepare yourself.

- Learn your school's policy on immunizations and see what's covered by your insurance – or which ones you can access free at health fairs or community clinics.
- Factor in public transportation, school bus or carpool expenses.
- Although shopping online can save money, time and gas, don't forget shipping and return costs, which could undo any net savings. If your kids are old enough, put them in charge of online comparison shopping.
- Clip newspaper and online coupons.

Many stores will match competitors' prices even if their own items aren't on sale. Plus, many consolidation websites post downloadable coupons and sale codes for

online retailers.

- Mobile shopping apps let in-store smartphone and mobile browser users scan product barcodes and make on-the-spot price comparisons, read reviews, download coupons, buy products and more.

Some parents wrestle over whether or not to take their kids on shopping trips. I think it's worth the effort so they can hear and absorb your decision-making process and understand what's available to spend. My kids are probably sick of hearing me say, "I'm going to buy this brand of underwear because it's cheaper, which will give us more money to buy a better-quality jacket."

Bottom line: Back-to-school shopping can be tedious, but if you plan carefully, you can save time, money and aggravation.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

Navarro

From Page 5

hearing from Walker and working with the engineers at NASA was exciting.

The WISH project students were given a fictitious budget to build several small mockups of vehicles to demonstrate a successful launch and landing of a Mars spacecraft. Navarro said they learned from NASA experts who specialize in various fields such as robotics, rovers and life support systems. They worked in collaborative teams doing hands-on activities and presenting their projects to NASA personnel and community leaders.

Navarro said NASA is an incredible place to learn and the project increased her interest in space and space exploration. She plans on looking for a career in science or math.

"If any girls are interested in applying for this, it is completely worth it. All the hard work pays off," she said.

Navarro said before she went to Houston the program included interactive online lessons with math problems and quizzes and covered past, current and future space exploration. She was graded by certified teachers and she had to submit a final project based on a leading female STEM professional who is developing cutting-edge technology or performing new research. She was chosen to attend the summer workshop at the Space Center based on the results of her online work.

Haciendas del Norte Water Improvement District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Haciendas Del Norte Water Improvement District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2012 on August 23, 2012 at 13931 Sagebrush Circle, El Paso, Texas 79938 at 6:30 pm. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal: **Frank Wood, Howard Funk, Robert Lucero and Daniel Diaz**

AGAINST the proposal: **NONE**

PRESENT and not voting: **NONE**

ABSENT: **Joseph McCandless**

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
	Adopted	Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.237505/\$100	0.231052/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		(\$ 0.006453/\$100)
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)		-2.717%
Average appraised value	\$ 190,150	\$ 192,735
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 190,150	\$ 192,735
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 451.62	\$ 445.32
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		- \$ 6.30 - 1.39%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

POWERING PROGRESS

Every time the turbines spin in our power generators, your future gets brighter.

Every time the sun's rays are absorbed by one of our solar panels, your future gets brighter.

And every time the businesses, nonprofit organizations and people of our region practice energy efficiency, your future gets brighter.

At El Paso Electric, we're more than a power company — we're a member of your community that's dedicated to making your future brighter.

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Visit epelectric.com and click on the sunny side.

LA Lakers position themselves for title another run

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

There's no doubt that the old adage about the rich getting richer is pretty accurate.

The biggest reason for this, I guess, is that the rest of us don't know how the rich do it. I'm fairly sure that if the rest of us knew how they did it, we'd probably do it too.

And speaking of the rich getting richer, is there no end to the number of times the Los Angeles Lakers are going to outsmart every other team in the league?

The Lakers, who already obtained point guard Steve Nash this off-season, went out and got the most coveted prize of the NBA summer, center Dwight Howard.

And amazingly, they got both of these guys without giving up all-star Pau Gasol.

The Lakers also brought in 36-year-old Antawn Jamison and soon-to-be 31-year-old Chris Duhon.

Jamison averaged 17 points a game for Cleveland last season and Duhon is a steady backup, good for 7 to 8 points a game.

The Lakers also kept Metta World (cheap shot) Peace, who is still as lethal shooting a 3-point jumper as he is with an elbow to the head.

Of course the Lakers still have soon-to-be 35-year-old Kobe Bryant, who is a no-doubt first-ballot Hall of Famer.

So a lot of media types are saying that the Lakers are now the best team in the NBA.

And at least on paper, they do look as formidable as any other super team in the league.

But let's examine the team a little closer. Dwight Howard, possibly the league's biggest diva, is considered the best center in the league. In the trade, the Lakers just gave up the second-best center in the league, Andrew Bynum.

So how much of an upgrade is Howard really? Let's compare the two big guys and their 2011 stats.

Points, Howard 20.6, Bynum 18.7; rebounds, Howard 14.5, Bynum 11.8; blocks, Howard 2.2, Bynum 1.9; free throw shooting, Howard 49.1%, Bynum 69.2%.

So as you can see, Howard holds a big edge

in name recognition and self-promotion, but an ever-so-slight edge on the basketball court.

At point guard, Steve Nash is as good as anyone who as ever played the position, but at 38, his scoring has steadily declined over the last seven years and I'm not sure he can guard you or me.

But there's no doubt he can still run a team. He can certainly find the open man and get him the ball.

That's when he's allowed to do his thing. Does anyone really believe that after 16 seasons in the league, Kobe is suddenly going to let someone else handle the ball for the majority of the offense? Kobe has already informed Howard that he will be the third scoring option on the team.

The Lakers offense will be the same as it always has, only Nash will have the privilege of bringing the ball up court and hand it to Bryant. Nash, like the majority of his teammates, will never see the ball again.

And with all these improvements where does that put Gasol?

He is still one of the best forwards in the league. But the constant badgering by Bryant has made him a shell of what he was, especially during the playoffs.

If the Lakers are really going to challenge for an NBA title next year, Kobe Bryant is going to have to tone it down a bit, put his own personal accomplishments aside and let his teammates feel like they are part of a team.

Too many times over the years his teammates just stand and watch as Kobe goes 1-on-3.

He has so many weapons now. To waste them will cost them an unforgettable season.

The real question is whether coach Mike Brown has the nerve to tell Kobe that things have to change, especially with the acquisition of Nash.

So are the Lakers now better than the Miami Heat, the Oklahoma City Thunder, the San Antonio Spurs, the Boston Celtics, the Chicago Bulls and even the Las Angeles Clippers?

The answer is easy. They should be, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

And most of it must come between the ears.

at the games, and I rode in on his coattails, hosting the "Surf Shack" inside the Olympic Village.

Next to the Surf Shack were a laser-tag tent and the Village arcade. Every day I'd sneak out of the shack and do battle with the world's greatest athletes inside both venues. The usual warlike that will leave a lasting impression in mind, for I was in the Centennial Olympic Park the night the park was bombed.

The games for me, ironically, started with me being in the right place at the right time. I had recently moved to Atlanta and secured a job at the tech company tasked with providing the technology at the Olympics. A colleague scored a big

My seashore smack was tolerated by, say, the Ukrainians or Moldavians, who hadn't a clue what I was saying, but the Aussies, they spoke the language. Also, they were huge and they were there to win real Olympic gold medals. So, rather than crush me like a bug, they complained, and the Atlanta Committee of the Olympic Games decided to ban all non-athletes from the arcade.

After arguing with American swimmer Jenny Thompson about Surf Shack rules (she didn't like that we didn't adhere to Stanford's rules of emailers first), I took my lanyard to the Centennial Park that evening and met with an old girlfriend at the beer tent. We watched a country-

fried band playing on the main stage, but decided we didn't want to stay for "Jack Mack and the Heart Attack." The night lasted until the early morning in an era just on the cusp of rampant cell phone usage, so I didn't know that the park was bombed and that we had been sitting squarely within range of the blast.

Suddenly, air hockey didn't seem so important anymore, and as the athletes and citizens at the games came together in ways hard to describe if you weren't there, I realized the games weren't a joke at all.

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

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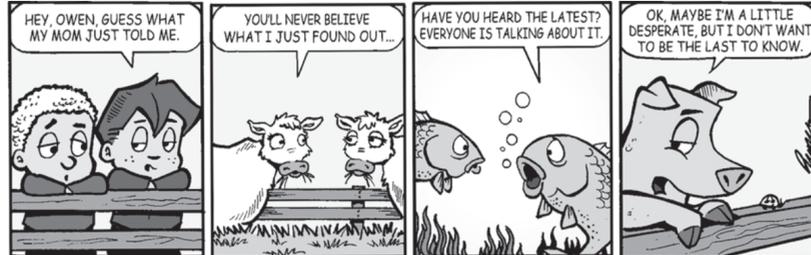
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Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering

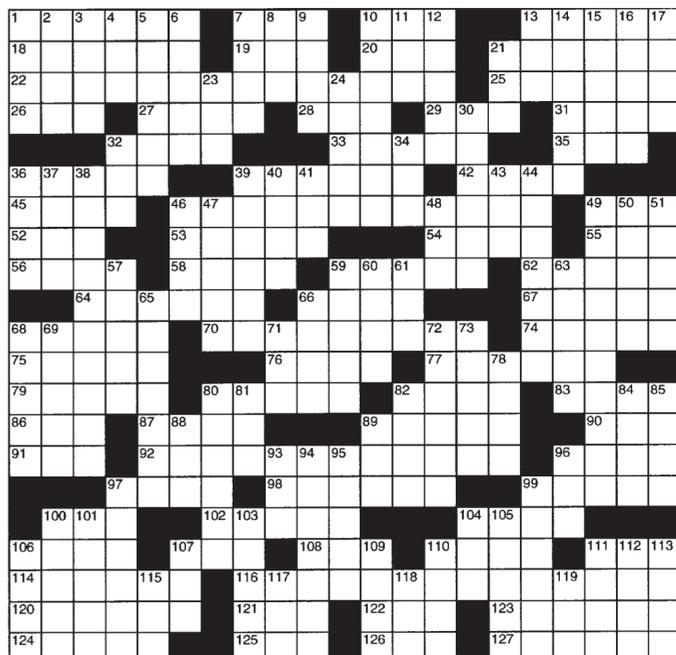


R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Super Crossword

- SOFT TOUCH ACROSS**
- 1 Picker-uppers
 - 7 Mr. Ziegfeld
 - 10 Bread spread
 - 13 Actress Laurie
 - 18 Conductor Toscanini
 - 19 Word with corn or snake
 - 20 Mr. Baba
 - 21 Scavullo's equipment
 - 22 Elizabeth Taylor movie
 - 25 Hudson River city
 - 26 Day--
 - 27 Rock's Floyd
 - 28 "Holy cow!"
 - 29 Use the microwave
 - 31 "Topaz" author
 - 32 Gab
 - 33 Football's Matson
 - 35 Pupil's place
 - 36 Energetic
 - 39 '64 Hitchcock film
 - 42 Way
 - 45 Steber solo
 - 46 English racer
 - 49 Arkansas hrs.
 - 52 West's "Diamond"
 - 53 Presses
 - 54 Help in a heist
 - 55 Cry of discovery
 - 56 Blend
 - 58 _chef
 - 59 "Die Fledermaus" maid
 - 62 Word form for "bone"
 - 64 Fancy
 - 66 Sailing
 - 67 "Wait _ Dark" ('67 film)
 - 68 Comic Mandel
 - 70 Bribe-to-be
 - 74 Recesses
 - 75 Pays to play
 - 76 Manuscript imperative
 - 77 Peter's partner
 - 79 Smallest
 - 80 Fiery felony
 - 82 Atmosphere
 - 83 Ridicule
 - 86 Bisoglio or Kilmer
 - 87 Perry's creator
 - 89 "... you'll like it!"
 - 90 Laudatory verse
 - 91 Wapiti
 - 92 Jason's quest
 - 96 "Uptown Girl" singer
 - 97 Screenwriter James
 - 98 Big-billed bird
 - 99 Power a trike
 - 100 On the _ (fleeing)
 - 102 Composer
 - 103 Telemann
 - 104 Moira Shearer, for one
 - 106 Mrs. Zeus
 - 107 Sniggler's quarry
 - 108 Humor
 - 110 Actress Arlene
 - 111 Salon request
 - 114 Hammed up "Hamlet"
 - 116 Some boxers
 - 120 Helen Hunt Jackson novel
 - 121 Unwell
 - 122 Hosp. area
 - 123 Layers
 - 124 Musty
 - 125 Relative of -ist
 - 126 _ de plume
 - 127 Tailor's apparatus
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Din from dynamite
 - 2 Articulated
 - 3 Director Preminger
 - 4 _ generis'
 - 5 Award
 - 6 Sanchez or Braga
 - 7 _ dance
 - 8 Actress Ullmann
 - 9 First name in fashion
 - 10 Field event
 - 11 Flagon filler
 - 12 Actress Gaynor
 - 13 Crony
 - 14 Permeated
 - 15 Pole star?
 - 16 Banks of baseball
 - 17 Sunshine, slangily
 - 18 Mushroom part
 - 23 Farm animal
 - 24 Tea of "Deep Impact"
 - 30 Certain bacterium
 - 32 Numbers man?
 - 34 Part of a triangle
 - 36 Reading matter?
 - 37 Part of HOMES
 - 38 Doris Day movie
 - 39 Writer de Cervantes
 - 40 Olympic hawk
 - 41 "Kidnapped" monogram
 - 43 Sugary suffix
 - 44 Flabbergast
 - 46 Iranian city
 - 47 Moves like a Morgan
 - 48 _ de mer"
 - 49 Certain poplar
 - 50 Arabian chieftain
 - 51 Hoes and hammers
 - 57 Produces prunes
 - 59 Wan
 - 60 Adroit
 - 61 _ Claire, WI
 - 63 A nose that shows
 - 65 IRA, e.g.
 - 66 Concerning
 - 68 Bisect
 - 69 Hoopster
 - 71 Nav. designation
 - 72 Vietnam's _ Van Thieu
 - 73 Column style
 - 78 Figure of interest?
 - 80 Accuse tentatively
 - 81 Florid
 - 82 Length X width
 - 84 Scheme
 - 85 Relate
 - 88 Salty spread
 - 89 RN's specialty
 - 93 like's domain
 - 94 Connecticut city
 - 95 "Tempus _"
 - 96 Gush
 - 97 Explosive mixture
 - 99 Considerate
 - 100 Paul of "American Graffiti"
 - 101 Luncheonette lure
 - 103 Wee
 - 104 Shorten a slat
 - 105 Karpov's game
 - 106 Towel word
 - 107 Author LeShan
 - 109 Svetle
 - 110 Grass "The Tin _"
 - 111 Kind of carpet
 - 112 Major conclusion
 - 113 Obsolete title
 - 115 Chemical ending
 - 117 Ivy Leaguer
 - 118 Author Umberto
 - 119 Kennel threat



Answer Page 4

Your good health By Paul G. Donahue, M.D.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: For many years, I had heartburn, and I lived with it by taking things like Tums. Finally, I consulted a doctor, who referred me to a gastroenterologist because he was alarmed at the length of time I'd had it. The gastroenterologist gave me a scope exam of my esophagus and stomach. It turns out I have GERD and something called Barrett's esophagus, which turns into cancer. Naturally, I am nervous. I've never heard of heartburn-caused cancer. How often does that happen? - A.S.

scope exam is repeated every six months. If no dysplasia changes are seen, follow-up exams are scheduled for every three years.

The booklet on hiatal hernia and GERD gives a comprehensive treatment on this subject. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donahue - No. 501W, 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: I am a senior citizen. For the past five years I have received Botox injections and wonder where the Botox goes after it leaves the injection site after about six or seven months. Does it stay in the body forever? Does it go to an organ? Suddenly, I am worried about this. - S.B.

Not often, but enough that plans have to be made to keep checking for such a change.

Heartburn is officially called GERD, gastroesophageal reflux disease. Stomach acid squirts upward (refluxes) into the swallowing tube, the esophagus. The esophagus isn't built to deal with stomach acid the way the stomach is. The result is heartburn.

Medicines for GERD are many. The ones most often chosen are proton-pump inhibitors, medicines that all but turn off acid production. Their names are Prevacid (lansoprazole), Dexilant (dexlansoprazole), Prilosec (omeprazole), Nexium (esomeprazole), Protonix (pantoprazole) and Aciphex (rabeprazole).

Up to 12 percent of GERD patients, even with treatment, develop Barrett's esophagus. The lining cells of the lower part of the esophagus change into ones that are more resistant to stomach acid. That change can evolve into another transformation that is precancerous. That's called dysplasia. Dysplasia can then become cancer. The absolute risk for this is small, but it is real, and has to be carefully looked for.

If the Barrett's cells show signs of low-grade dysplasia, then a follow-up scope exam of the esophagus is done in six to 12 months and repeated annually. If high-grade changes are found, the

The body, as it does with all injected medicines, breaks down Botox, and the breakdown products are eliminated. It's the way nature takes care of all foreign materials that find their way into our bodies.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: All my friends have menstrual cycles that last 28 days. Mine don't. They vary from 23 to 34 days. Is that normal? I feel fine. I am 23 and active. My periods are not painful. - J.F.

The average menstrual cycle is one of 28 days. That's only an average. The cycle can vary from 21 to 35 days and still be considered normal.

Dr. Donahue 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.

FOOTBALL SEASON TICKETS

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Fabens Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 29, 2012 in the Central Office Board Room, 821 NE "G" Avenue, Fabens, Texas 79838. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.040000/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.221900/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and Operations	1.25%	Increase
Debt Service	0.14%	Increase
Total Expenditures	1.39%	Increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 210,210,399	\$ 218,210,639
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 8,701,790	\$ 1,167,755
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 152,883,297	\$ 161,137,900
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 4,052,219	\$ 1,095,136

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
 ** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$25,130,000

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.040000	\$ 0.198100*	\$ 1.238100	\$ 794	\$ 7,418
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.076610	\$ 0.221570*	\$ 1.298170	\$ 804	\$ 7,960
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.040000	\$ 0.221900*	\$ 1.261900	\$ 806	\$ 7,886

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 53,707	\$ 53,173
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 38,707	\$ 38,173
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.238100	\$ 1.261900
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 479.23	\$ 481.71
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 2.48

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.261900. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.261900.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 6,049,051
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ (76,564)

Clint Independent School District SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Clint Independent School District provides the following educational program/services to identified disabled children who reside within the district beginning on the third birthday through age twenty-one.

- 1) Instructional Program: including Early Childhood (beginning on the third birthday through age five), Resource (grades K-12) and Self-Contained (grades K-12)
- 2) Diagnostic Services
- 3) Transportation Services
- 4) Speech Therapy
- 5) Counseling Services
- 6) Adaptive Equipment Services
- 7) Physical Therapy
- 8) Occupational Therapy
- 9) School Health Services
- 10) Homebound Services
- 11) Dyslexia Services

Services are provided to identified auditorial and visually impaired children who reside within the district from birth through age twenty-one and to private/home school students who qualify for special education services.

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and Public Law 105-17, parents and adult students have the right to inspect educational records. District policies FL and FL-P provide for record access, confidentiality, and complaint procedures.

If you would like more information or know of a disabled child who is not receiving educational services, please contact the Special Education Director at 125 Brown Street, Clint, Texas 79836, or call (915) 851-8383.

SERVICIOS DE EDUCACION ESPECIAL

El distrito escolar de Clint provee los siguientes programas/ servicios educacionales a niños que son identificados como deshabilitados que viven dentro del distrito comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta los 21 años.

- 1) programa de instrucción: infancia temprana (comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta la edad de cinco años), cuarto de recurso (K-12), y clases contenidas (K-12)
- 2) servicios diagnósticos
- 3) servicios de transportación
- 4) terapia de habla
- 5) servicios de consejo
- 6) servicios de equipaje adaptivo
- 7) terapia física
- 8) terapia ocupacional
- 9) servicios de salud escolar
- 10) servicios de clases en el hogar
- 11) servicios de dyslexia

Se provee servicios a niños identificados como deshabilitados audible y visualmente que viven dentro del distrito desde nacimiento hasta la edad de 21 años y para estudiantes en clases privadas/en el hogar que califican para servicios de educación especial.

Conforme al Acto de Derechos y Confidencia Educacionales de Familia de 1974 y Ley Publica 105-17, padres y alumnos adultos tienen el derechos de ver los archivos educativos. Polizas FL y FL-P explican los derechos, la confidencialidad, y el proceso para quejarse.

Si usted desea mas información o sabe de un niño/niña deshabilitado que vive en el distrito escolar de Clint que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con la Directora de Educación Especial en la direccion 125 Brown Street, Clint, Texas 79836, o al teléfono (915) 851-8383.

WTCC: 08-16-12



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

CONGRATULATIONS – Claudia Green, left, joins Horizon High School grad Anan Guzman with Edward Gabaldon as Guzman receives her scholarship and a commemorative plaque. Guzman was one of eleven students to receive the Superintendent's Scholarship.

Grads earn Clint ISD Superintendent's Scholarship

By Laura Cade
 Special to the Courier

Eleven Clint ISD graduates were awarded the CISD Superintendent's Scholarship for 2012. The \$1,000 scholarships were funded by the Superintendent's Scholarship Fund. Funds are raised through an employee giving campaign as well as the Annual Clint ISD Super Scholars 5K Run held in December each year. Five of the scholarships awarded were made possible in partnership with the El Paso Area Teachers Federal Credit Union (TFCU). The scholarships were presented at the District's Annual Partners in Education Luncheon in June. Claudia Green, CEO of TFCU, joined Dr. Edward L. Gabaldon, Clint ISD Superintendent, to present the scholarships to the students.

Recipients of the Clint ISD Superintendent's Scholarship for 2012 are (by school):

- Clint High School – Valerie Campos and Jamie Paneral;
- Mountain View High School – Melissa Ayala, Michelle Ramirez and Jannet Hernandez; and
- Horizon High School – Stefany Carranza, Priscilla Caballero, Francisco Lopez, Abilene Gallegos, Ana Guzman and Marilynn Nguyen.

Clint Independent School District Public Notice

Child Find – All children with disabilities residing in the State, who are in need of special education and related services, including children with disabilities attending private schools, must be identified, located, and evaluated. This process, called Child Find is the responsibility of Clint Independent School District where your child's private or home school is located. For additional information, please contact the Special Education Dept. at (915) 851-8383.

Noticia Pública

En Busca de Niño – Cada niño con deshabilitades que vive en el Estado, que necesita servicios de educación especial, incluso niños con deshabilitades que asisten escuelas privadas, tienen que ser identificados, establecidos y evaluados. En Busca del Niño es la responsabilidad de el distrito escolar de Clint donde la escuela particular de su niño esta ubicada. Para información adicional, favor de comunicarse con el departamento de educación especial al teléfono (915) 851-8383.

WTCC: 08/16/12

Archives: www.wtxcc.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Clint Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 29, 2012 in the Board Room, 14521 Horizon Blvd., El Paso, Texas 79928. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$1.040050/\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	
Approved by Local Voters	\$0.295000/\$100 (Proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and Operations	5.23%	Increase
Debt Service	0.26%	Increase
Total Expenditures	5.49%	Increase

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 1,241,702,368	\$ 1,270,902,407
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 53,867,902	\$ 44,969,881
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 1,007,356,777	\$ 1,035,047,152
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 51,426,410	\$ 39,417,541

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
 ** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
 *** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$126,256,619.

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.040100	\$ 0.295000*	\$ 1.335100	\$ 1,233	\$ 6,527
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.050850	\$ 0.301980*	\$ 1.352830	\$ 1,246	\$ 6,996
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.040100	\$ 0.295000*	\$ 1.335100	\$ 1,239	\$ 6,886

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 87,888	\$ 89,672
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 72,430	\$ 74,034
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.335050	\$ 1.335050
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 966.98	\$ 988.39
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 21.41

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

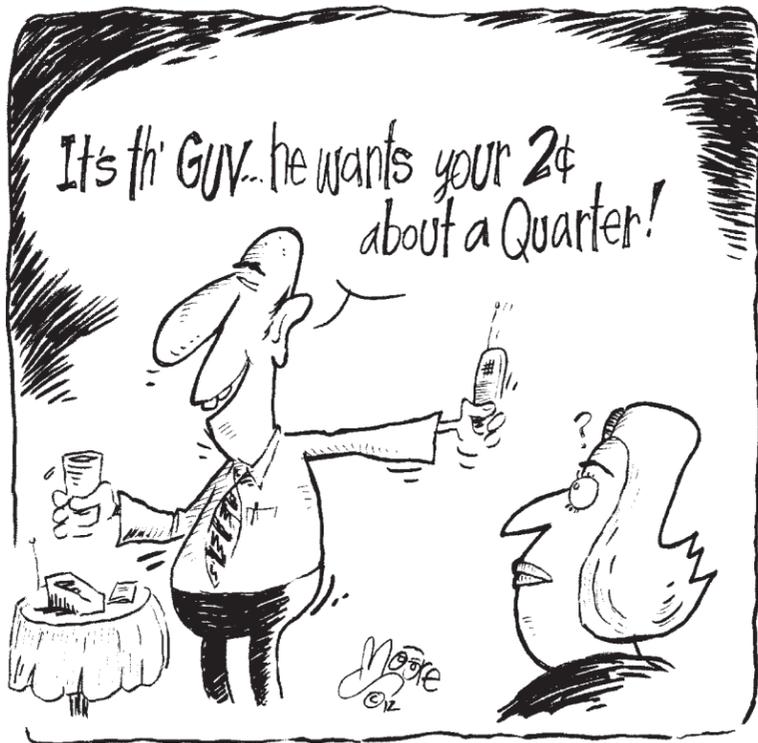
Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.347800. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.347800.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 23,195,315
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,044,841

Moore Texas by Roger Moore Sept 15, 2000:
Gov Bush appoints the TEXAS Quarter Dollar Design
Advisory Committee .



Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: What are the limits on what I can own to be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)?

A: Social Security counts real estate, bank accounts, cash, stocks, and bonds toward the limits on what you can own. You may be able to get SSI if your resources are worth no more than \$2,000. A couple may be able to get SSI if they have resources worth no more than \$3,000. If you own property you are trying to sell, you may be able to get SSI while trying to sell it. Social Security does not count everything you own in deciding whether you have too many resources to qualify for SSI. For example, we generally do not count: the home you live in and the land it is on; life insurance policies with a face value of \$1,500 or less; your car; burial plots for you and immediate family; and up to \$1,500 in burial funds for you and up to \$1,500 in burial funds for your spouse. Learn more about SSI at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi.

your application to the disability determination services office in your state, often called the "DDS" or "state agency" to determine whether you meet the legal definition of disabled. Your state agency completes the disability decision for us. Doctors and disability specialists in the state agency ask your doctors for information about your condition. They consider all the facts in your case. They use the medical evidence from your doctors and hospitals, clinics, or institutions where you have been treated and all other information. The state agency staff may need more medical information before they can decide if you are disabled. If more information is not available from your current medical sources, the state agency may ask you to go for a special examination. The preference is to ask your own doctor, but sometimes the exam may have to be done by someone else. Social Security will pay for the exam and for some of the related travel costs. Learn more about disability benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/disability.

Q: My doctor said he thinks I'm disabled. Who decides if I meet the requirements for Social Security disability benefits?

A: We first will review your application to make sure you meet some basic requirements for Social Security disability benefits, such as whether you worked enough years to qualify. Then we will send

For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

Medicaid
From Page 6

have also been extremely low. Nonetheless, beginning in 2014 anyone with an income of up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level (\$29,300 for a family of four) will be eligible for coverage under Medicaid. For the first three years, the federal government will pick up the entire cost of these new enrollees, but the state share then gradually increases until it reaches 10 percent in 2020. Under the new health care legislation, states will have to raise the Medicaid rates paid to primary-care doctors to the same level the federal government sets under Medicare, the program for the elderly. For the first two years, the federal government will pay the difference. After that, it is left up to the states whether to continue paying the higher rates.

Among the arguments against the new health law are the estimated state cost of Medicaid expansion – \$15.6 billion from 2014 through 2023 – and the lack of doctors participating in the program.

Also, in a recent letter sent to U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, Perry said that Texas would not establish an online marketplace for patients to shop for insurance or expand Medicaid because

both elements "represent brazen intrusions into the sovereignty of our state", according to news reports.

Perry's statement noted that expanding Medicaid would add millions of people "into the already unsustainable Medicaid program, at a potential cost of billions to Texas taxpayers." The Texas Health and Human Services Commission estimated the Medicaid expansion would cost the state \$27 billion in the first 10 years.

But advocates for expansion stated that Texas would draw down \$100.1 billion in federal funds during that same time period, a return of almost \$6.50 for every \$1 of state money. And, they propose that the state legislature address the reason few doctors take Medicaid patients by approving adequate reimbursement rates.

If the state doesn't expand Medicaid, it passes the buck onto local governments, according to José Rodríguez, El Paso's state senator (District 29). As an example, Rodríguez cited the need for El Paso County Commissioners to raise hospital district property taxes last year – for the first time in 22 years – largely to make up for state cuts to Medicaid.

Rodríguez stated that the state's decision to opt out of the program expansion could cost El Paso's University Medical Center \$40 million this year.

In a recent news article, Texas Hospital Association President and CEO Dan Stultz stated that hospitals agree with Perry that the Medicaid program is "severely flawed," but he added that "without the Medicaid expansion, many will remain uninsured, seeking care in emergency rooms, shifting costs to the privately insured and increasing uncompensated care to health care providers."

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.

	÷		+		12
+		×		÷	
	-		×		4
÷		-		+	
	×		-		6
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DIFFICULTY: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 8 9

Answer Page 4

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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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: G equals L

AOJX VOA CK EVF ACM PDDGF

IVFNF UTGBJ ENPRF UTTEIFPN

PGG RPX: KFI XTNB JTLB

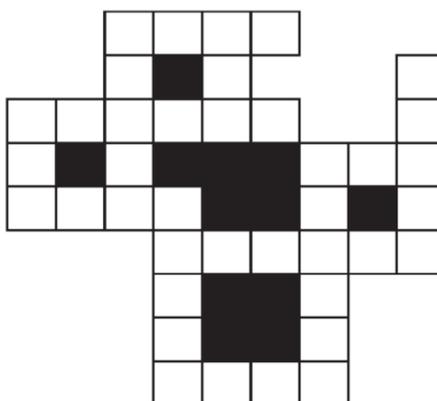
FHLVPKMF.

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- GLO
- ADAPER
- DIDET
- ♥SEUM
- SERIOUS
- PPI
- EDPU
- ROLME
- ♥DSA
- ELUGON
- ♥REGPA
- LEPT



Answer Page 4

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.

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