



## NEWSBRIEFS

### EPCC scholarships

The Foundation for El Paso Community College (EPCC) is proud to announce the 2013-14 Scholarship Application is now available online at [www.epcc.edu/scholarships](http://www.epcc.edu/scholarships). Apply now to be considered for hundreds of EPCC scholarships being awarded to new and current students for the fall 2013 and spring 2014 semesters. A select number of awards will also be made available for the summer 2013 semester. The deadline to submit an application is April 1, 2013. Students enrolled full-time or part-time will be eligible for scholarships. Scholarships are available to all majors, associate or certificate seeking students, or those wishing to brush up on new skills. The Foundation's mission is to promote excellence in education through scholarships awarded to deserving individuals and to create new educational opportunities. The Foundation has raised over \$2 million in scholarships and has already awarded scholarships to thousands of promising area students. Become one of those students and apply online today at [www.epcc.edu/scholarships](http://www.epcc.edu/scholarships). For more information on scholarships or the application process contact Norma Urias at 831-2230. If you would like information on joining the Foundation in their mission, visit [www.epcc.edu/foundation](http://www.epcc.edu/foundation) or call 831-6485.

— Jim Heiney

### Smart runners

The El Paso Community College (EPCC) men's team was named The Academic Team of the Year by the National Junior College Cross Country Coaches Association with a GPA of 3.851 for the five-member qualifying team in the fall 2012 semester. Michael Grijalva and Angel De La Cruz also earned individual academic honors with a semester GPA of 4.00. There were 22 schools ranked with Hesston College (KS) finishing 2nd with a 3.833 team GPA. All seven members of the EPCC team earned individual academic honors for a semester GPA of 3.40 or higher. The EPCC women's team was ranked 19 out of 26 schools with a team GPA of 3.344. Angelica Palomino also earned individual academic honors with a semester GPA of 4.00. The women's first-place team was Hesston College with a team GPA of 3.915.

— Jim Heiney

### Unsolved murders

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has a new section of its website dedicated to solving cold case murder investigations across the state of Texas. The Texas Rangers' Unsolved Homicides webpage is aimed at renewing the public's interest in these cases, including

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*It's not the load that breaks you down,  
it's the way you carry it.*

— Quips & Quotes

## Dairy shutdown affects cotton industry

By Robert Grijalva  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – El Paso County's dairy industry, once a major producer in Texas, was prohibited in 2001 from being licensed to sell milk or milk products to distributors. In addition to the economic loss to the county, the prohibition – though unintentional – is now threatening the cotton industry.

In the 2001 legislative session a bill by Bob Glaze (D) from Upshur County was passed that prohibited dairy permits to farms located

in areas that were infected with or at high risk for Bovine Tuberculosis (BT). The El Paso dairy farm industry along with the support industries disappeared with the passage of the bill.

One of the support industries for dairy farms was the production of cattle feed. Alfalfa and sorghum were two crops grown in the county. Cotton farmers could rotate their cotton crop with the cattle feed crops.

The elimination of crop rotation invited the invasion of Cotton Root Rot, one of the most destructive fungal plant diseases.

Cotton farmers here produce the highest-

grade cotton and regularly generate millions of dollars in revenues. Without an alternative crop that offers the same economic rewards, farmers continue to plant cotton.

In a New York Times article that reported on legislation to bring the dairy industry back to El Paso, Orlando Flores, a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Agent, said "Our valley supported the dairy industry because we could grow alfalfa, corn, wheat, whatever the dairies needed. We had to revert back to growing nothing but cotton."

The fungal disease moves rapidly in the ground affecting the roots. Once infected, the cotton plant dies suddenly.

Dr. Jaime Iglesias has been tracking the expansion of Cotton Root Rot for some time now. Iglesias is also a County Extension Agent under Texas A&M University. According to his research, the fungal disease started in Hudspeth County and has infected significant areas of El Paso County. Iglesias stated that crop rotation would have prevented this pending threat to the cotton industry in El Paso.

Crop rotation without a local dairy market would be difficult to maintain due to a variety of economic factors. There is no dairy industry closer than 40 miles from the farmlands in El Paso County now infected with BT. The cost of transporting a sorghum crop to a dairy farm would add to the production cost making it uncompetitive. Farms providing feed crops are located nearby the existing dairy farms in southern New Mexico.

Iglesias is certain that the true solution to the fungal disease is the return of the dairy industry in El Paso. He lobbied the Animal Health Commission and many legislators in the 82nd legislative session. He is assisting Representative Mary Gonzalez this year. Gonzalez has filed two bills that would go far in returning the industry here.



— Photo by Robert Grijalva

**SAFE FOR NOW** – This cotton field is located in Socorro. Because it is so far from the infected cotton fields, it may not suffer the effects of Cotton Root Rot for some time.

## Horizon, Socorro, County create state's first TRZ

### Alliance to fund \$60 million in transportation projects

By Robert Grijalva  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – On December 3, 2012 Commissioners Court approved by a four to one vote the establishment of the first multi-jurisdictional Transportation Reinvestment Zone (TRZ) in the state of Texas. The TRZ will allow El Paso County, Horizon City and Socorro to finance major transportation improvements more efficiently and in a shorter period of time as opposed to traditional funding processes.

A TRZ is allowed to finance projects based on revenues generated by future property value increases within the boundaries of the zone. It is anticipated that the increases will be stimulated by the projects themselves.

The tax revenues that the county and two municipalities collect for their general funds will remain at the 2012 level. Any increases will be dedicated to the TRZ.

For example, a house located within Horizon City with a 2012 property value of \$100,000 was assessed \$408 county tax only. The effective tax rate was .408870 per hundred



— Photo by Robert Grijalva

**LOTS OF CONCRETE** – Eastlake Blvd., as part of the TRZ, will become a six-lane thoroughfare and extend further into Horizon City and end at Horizon Blvd., creating a high capacity loop.

dollars of value. If, with the same effective tax rate, the value of that property is raised in 2013 to \$105,000 the county tax assessed would be \$425. The portion dedicated to the county

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**Veterans Post** By Freddy Groves

*VA 'walks the walk' on mental health*

In April 2012, the head of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Eric Shinseki, announced his intention to beef up the number of mental-health professionals at the VA. Specifically, it would hire 1,600 nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists, marriage counselors, family therapists, addiction therapists and social workers, along with 300 support personnel.

A few months later, President Obama signed an Executive Order instructing the VA to boost its mental health staff by 1,600, with 300 support personnel, by the end of June 2013.

At this point, the VA is well on its way, with 1,058 providers and 223 support personnel hired. In addition, and per the Executive Order, the VA has increased by 50 percent the call capacity of its crisis line.

One wonders, however, how an Executive Order comes into play here. Historically, these orders have been huge. Some have ordered wars, or integration of the military, or desegregation of schools, or Japanese-Americans to be forced into camps, or have allowed the National Security

Agency to eavesdrop on phone calls without a warrant.

Using an Executive Order to instruct the VA about staffing levels, with specific numbers of personnel to hire, after the VA has already stated its intentions, is a bit curious.

Meanwhile, if you're a mental-health professional and want to work with the VA, go online to [www.vacareers.va.gov](http://www.vacareers.va.gov) and [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).

If you're a veteran and need help, call the nearest VA facility or go online to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). If you have a mental health emergency, whether you're a veteran or family/friend of a veteran, call the crisis line (1-800-273-8255, press 1). You can do an online chat as well at [www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net) or text to 838255.

Just so you know, most of the people on the other end of the phone at the crisis line are veterans, too.

*Write to Freddy Groves in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to [columnreply@gmail.com](mailto:columnreply@gmail.com). (c) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.*



— Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

**IT'S ABOUT THE FUTURE** – Tornillo Elementary School (TES) celebrated Career Week recently. Shown in photo is TES Teacher Yvonne Trujillo (center, background) posing with her third grade class during a Career Day presentation. On Career Day “people came to tell us things about their jobs. I learned that it is important to have a job,” said eight year-old Jose Julian Rey (seated second from left).

**Tornillo students explore colleges, careers**

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

**TORNILLO** – “Students can accomplish their dreams” was the message pervading throughout the classrooms of Tornillo Elementary School during its recent Career Week observance.

TES teachers and staff celebrated the week-long event with a variety of fun activities to get students to

think about their future college and career plans.

After participating in a career day presentation, third grader Kaydence Morgan, 8, asserted, “I want to go to the Army so that I can become a nurse.” Third grader Jaime Gandara, 10, declared, “I learned that it is important to go to college to get a good job.”

This was the second year that the elementary school of about 450 students held a career week event,

according to Angie Morales, Tornillo Elementary School counselor. “It is a lot of work coordinating the different activities, like inviting all of these wonderful professional people who came to speak to our students; but, these activities are important because they are designed to help our students increase their awareness of careers available to them and at the same time have fun learning about them,” Morales said. The observance involved daily



**A GLIMPSE AHEAD** – Professionals, from fields including law enforcement, medicine, firefighters, legal and restaurants, gave classroom presentations to students as part of the Tornillo Elementary School Career Day activities. Mascots – the Tornillo High School Coyote and the Little Caesar's Pizza Emperor – also joined in.

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

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Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

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\$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.

**DISPLAY RATES:**  
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**epcc THEATRE ENSEMBLE 2012-2013 SEASON**

**GODSPELL**

**February 28  
March 1, 2, 7 & 8  
(Matinee show March 3 @ 2:30 pm.)**

**Transmountain Forum Theater**

Patriot Freeway • Diana Exit  
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Shows begin promptly at 8:00 p.m.

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\$7.00 - EPCC Student/Faculty/Staff & Seniors  
\$10.00 - Non-EPCC Students & Military  
\$15.00 - General Admission  
Cash or Checks only



themes: Monday was University Banners Day – students created a banner of their favorite universities; Tuesday was College T-Shirt Day – students replicated their favorite college t-shirt designs; Wednesday was Professional/Career Dress Up Day – students dressed in their careers of interest (such as doctor, nurse, firefighter, military, electrician, lawyer, dentist).

Other Career Week activities included an essay contest, career poster/display project, and a parade. On Career Day, speakers from a variety of fields visited the campus and gave classroom presentations about their careers.

“It was great having our professional guests speak with our students, because they exemplify citizenship in our community and are role models to our children. Their participation helped inform our students about the professional opportunities that are awaiting them in the real world,” the counselor stated.

The guest speakers volunteered

**Member Texas Community Newspaper Association**



**Finances** By Jason Alderman

**Prepare now for natural disasters**

Natural disasters are inevitable, unpreventable and often come without warning. No part of the world seems to be spared, whether it's a hurricane, earthquake, tornado, drought or flood. Even though such catastrophes can't always be predicted, their likely aftermaths often can, including property loss, power or water service disruption, scarcity of food and supplies or overtaxed relief organizations.

Superstorm Sandy was a powerful reminder of why it's vital to develop a family disaster plan. By planning ahead and knowing what you might need under dire circumstances, you can save yourselves a lot of time, money and grief.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers great suggestions for developing a family emergency plan, building an emergency supply kit, and learning what to do before, during and after emergencies – even a plan for family pets ([www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)).

Once your physical safety has been assured, you'll inevitably need to access important financial and legal records, whether to file insurance claims, apply for loans or simply withdraw cash. Taking these few steps now will make accessing such information much easier when the time comes:

- Create a log of all account numbers, toll-free emergency numbers, contact information and passwords for your bank and credit card accounts, loans, insurance policies, utilities and other important accounts. Update it regularly and save copies in secure, offsite locations such as a safety deposit box or with a trusted friend living in another area. You can also email the list to yourself in an encrypted, password-protected file, save it on a CD or USB drive, or use a cloud-based storage service like Dropbox that will let you access it from any Internet connection.
- Make PDF copies of tax returns, insurance policies and legal documents and save offsite in the same manner as above, in case your files or computer are destroyed by fire or

flood. Also make digital copies of invaluable family photos, documents and memorabilia that money can't replace.

Document your possessions. If you should ever need to file an insurance claim or claim a tax deduction for lost, stolen or damaged property, it'll be much easier if you have an inventory of everything you own – photos or videotape are even better. A few available tools:

- The IRS' Casualty, Theft and Loss Workbook (IRS Publication 584) includes a worksheet for cataloging and estimating the value of your possessions.
- The Insurance Information Institute maintains a free, secure online home inventory software application that lets you access your home inventory, anywhere, anytime ([www.iii.org](http://www.iii.org)).
- Your insurance company's website likely contains a downloadable inventory form.

Make sure you fully understand what is and isn't covered by your insurance policies for natural disasters. You may need additional coverage for damage associated with hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes and other weather conditions. Also:

- Document any damage with photos or video before you start cleanup or repairs.
- Keep track of expenses you incur to prevent further damage, for temporary housing or to move your possessions for safekeeping, as they may be reimbursable under your insurance claim.

Don't delay submitting your claim, since insurers often settle claims in the order filed.

FEMA provides information on how you might be able to get government assistance before, during and after a disaster at [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov).

Bottom line: Develop a family emergency plan now and make sure everyone knows what to do when disaster strikes.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs.

**Museum spotlights El Paso women in politics**

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – Women have played strategic roles as public officials in molding the City of El Paso's governmental affairs. Strong women have been involved in El Paso city politics at least since 1912.

To commemorate these female city leaders and as part of the national Women's History Month celebration, the El Paso Museum of History will host a special presentation, titled "El Paso Women in Politics: 1912 to 1990", at 2 p.m., Saturday, March 9, at the history museum (510 North Santa Fe Street). The event is free and open to the public.

Joseph R.M. Longo, a political historian, will facilitate the presentation. Longo, a native of El Paso, has been researching women involved in El Paso politics for the past five years.

Longo stated that there have been several women who have had an impact on El Paso's city politics and that he hopes, in his presentation, to relate some of these fascinating tales of how women vied with men to be city leaders and how they helped change El Paso.

Women's History Month in

See WOMEN, Page 5



– Photo Courtesy of the TCU Magazine

To commemorate Women's History Month celebration, the El Paso Museum of History will host a special presentation, titled "El Paso Women in Politics: 1912 to 1990". Above, is Justice Anne Crawford McClure, an El Pasoan, who was appointed by the Supreme Court of Texas and commissioned by Governor Ann W. Richards to the Texas Board of Law Examiners in 1991. She moved to El Paso in 1983 and began a solo practice in appellate law. In 1984, she was board certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization in family law, and in 1987, the first year the specialty was recognized, she became the first attorney from El Paso to obtain board certification in civil appellate law.

# Tornillo

From Page 2

their time to talk with students about their careers and about the importance of reading and writing in their daily lives. "This was a great opportunity to influence our students in a positive way," Morales said. "We believe our children are our future, and all we need to do is just teach them and guide them to be what they want to be," she added.

Tornillo Independent School District (TISD) is located approximately 35 miles southeast of El Paso. TISD, with a student

population of 1,366, is considered one of the fastest growing, and poorest, districts in the state. Its annual student growth rate has been nearly 20 percent for the past few years.

TISD students are taught at four campuses: Tornillo elementary (pre-k through third grades), intermediate (fourth through sixth grades), junior high (seventh and eighth grades), and high (ninth through twelfth grades) schools.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census Bureau data, the rural community of Tornillo consists of about 1,570 residents with a median household income of just over \$26,000 per year.

# TRZ

From Page 1

general revenue would remain \$408 and the \$17 increment would be dedicated to the TRZ. The zone will have no impact on how tax rates are set or on the process of appraising properties for tax purposes.

With respect to the funding of projects based on anticipated values, County Judge Veronica Escobar said, "The fact that we are doing the project now as opposed to 10 years down the road, or even five years down the road, actually saves us money even with the debt probably included because we all know how the cost of

construction goes up." She said this during an October 15 public hearing of Commissioners Court.

At the same hearing, Horizon City Mayor Walt Miller said, "Our council and citizens so far have been very much behind this; they believe in investing in ourselves. I speak in favor of the TRZ."

The highest projected funding would be for connecting Eastlake to Montana with a two-lane undivided road (\$16.2 million) via Darrington/Berryville which currently ends at Pellicano. Eastlake Blvd. would be increased to a six-lane divided road and would be extended further into Horizon City, intersecting with Horizon Blvd. at a projected cost of \$13 million. Old

Hueco Tanks Rd. would be improved to a four-lane divided road from I-10 to Moon Road. The projected cost is \$10.5 million. Other projects make up the balance of the projected \$60 million budget for the TRZ.

The Texas Transportation Institute released a study on the potential of the TRZ on August 5, 2012, that essentially was adopted by the Commissioner's Court. In its conclusions, the study recommended the TRZ set a half-mile buffer on either side of the designated roads throughout the boundaries. The study projected that \$71.4 million in revenues could be generated from the increased tax increments until the completion of the projects.

## Classified Ads

### LEGALS

#### TOWN OF CLINT

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON PROPOSED VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION

6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, March 6, 2013, and 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, March 13, 2013.

Town Senior Center 200 N. San Elizario Road Clint, Texas

#### LEGAL NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

under the provisions of Chapter 43 of the Texas Local Government Code that the Town of Clint will hold a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public comments on the proposed initiation of annexation proceedings for the tracts generally described below. Maps related to the proposed annexation are available for inspection at Town of Clint, 200 N. San Elizario Road Clint, Texas between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. A Municipal Services Plan for each tract will be available at the public hearing and copies will be available for inspection. After the two (2) required public hearings, the Town Council will consider an ordinance for the annexation at their

April 10, 2013 Town Council meeting. For additional information call the Town of Clint at: (915) 851-3146.

A) All of the Herring Road right-of-way adjacent to existing city limits beginning at the east line of Middle Drain ending at the west right-of-way line of Alameda Avenue/ State Highway 20;

B) Tropicana Development Inc. property pertaining to the tract of land consisting of approximately 61.95 acres of land from the 11 San Elizario Tract 9 also described as Property ID 25571 and Geographic ID S07500001100930 by the El Paso County Appraisal District;

C) Waynelle and James Strachan property pertaining to the tract of land consisting of approximately 18.9375 acres of land from the 11 San Elizario Tract 8-B also described as Property ID 324427 and Geographic ID S07500001100850 by the El Paso County Appraisal District; and

D) John and Staci Witte property pertaining to the tract of land consisting of approximately 1.00 acres of land from the 11 San Elizario Tract 8-A also described as Property ID 378451 and Geographic ID S07500001100820 by the El Paso County Appraisal

District.

Persons with disabilities who may require auxiliary aids or services to attend this meeting should contact City Hall (915) 851-3146 at least two days before the meeting to make arrangements.

Susana Rodriguez City Clerk Town of Clint

WTCC: 02-21-13 02-28-13

#### City of Socorro

#### Adoption of Ordinances

On February 14, 2013 the City of Socorro, Texas adopted the following ordinance(s):

1) **ORDINANCE 312, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS, PROPOSING AMENDMENT TO THE CITY CHARTER; CALLING AN ELECTION ON SAID ISSUE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC NOTICE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND OTHER MATTERS GERMANE THERETO.**

The effective date of this Ordinance is immediately upon adoption and publication.

Published by order of the City Council of the City of Socorro, Texas

Copies of the ordinance are available for review at the City Administration Building, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas 79927; Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Sandra Hernandez City Clerk

WTCC: 02-21-13 02-28-13

#### City of Socorro

#### PUBLIC HEARING

#### Town Of Horizon City

#### PUBLIC HEARING

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held during a Regular Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting on Monday, March 18, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers (Court/Police Dept. Bldg.), 15001 Darrington Rd., Horizon City, TX, 79928. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding the following:

1) **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING AN AMENDED BUDGET RE-APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM GENERAL FUND HEALTH LINE ITEM AND GRANT EXPENSE ITEMS TO VARIOUS DEPARTMENTAL LINE ITEMS.**

Those unable to attend the public hearing may submit their views to the City of Socorro. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; handi-

capped persons in need of special assistance for attending the hearings are encouraged to contact the City Clerk (915) 858-2915, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. Copies of ordinances are available for review at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., upon request.

Sandra Hernandez City Clerk

WTCC: 02-28-13

#### City of Socorro

#### Town Of Horizon City

#### PUBLIC HEARING

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#### Paso County, Texas. Currently Zoned C-2 Heavy Commercial. Replat request is to adjust interior lot line setbacks between Lots 2 and 3.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk at 14999 Darrington Rd., Horizon City, TX 79928 or call 915-852-1046. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; and individuals in need of special assistance for attending the hearing are encouraged to contact the City Clerk at 915-852-1046, forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

Karen Ellefson Town Clerk Horizon City

WTCC: 02-28-13

#### Rio Grande Council of Governments

#### Request For Proposals

The Rio Grande Council of Governments is requesting proposals from a qualified consultant firm to perform a Transloading/Intermodal Feasibility Study for the Presidio Rural Rail Transportation District. The goal of the study is to identify a transloader/intermodal transportation hub in order to facilitate

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### CITY OF SOCORRO PUBLIC NOTICE

As per Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 683, Abandoned Motor Vehicle Section 682.012, The Socorro Police Department hereby advises owners and/or lien holders of the below listed vehicles that the vehicles have been taken into custody and that said vehicles will be stored at: Socorro Police Impound Lot, 670 Poona Rd, Socorro, TX, 79927. (915) 858-6986. All Owners and/or lien holders have twenty (20) days from this date to reclaim their vehicles. Failure to do so will constitute a waiver of all rights, title to and interest in the vehicle. It will also constitute consent to sell the vehicle at a public auction. Vehicles may be claimed by showing proof of ownership to the Socorro Police Department and by paying all charges owed against the vehicle.

- 1983, PONTIAC GRAND PRIX, TX: GXL533
- 2005, CHEVY 2500 PICKUP, TX: 13XVV9
- 1998, FORD TAURUS, TX: 247ZKL
- 1992, CHEVY VAN, TX: 9PZR72
- 2006, KAWASAKI MOTORCYCLE, TX: 00231R
- 1996, HONDA CIVIC, TX: DP1Y414
- 1993, FORD AEROSTAR, TX: 42XMR3
- 2005, CHEVY TAHOE, TN: 37042
- UNK, FLATBED TRAILER, UNK
- 2002, FORD F-150, CA: 6V03185
- 1997, LINCOLN TOWNCAR, TX: BT8L378
- N/A, KTM DIRT BIKE, N/A
- 1997, FORD F-150, TX: 08GRV8
- 2008, HONDA CBR, TX: 4CA007
- 1998, HONDA CIVIC, TX: DM9N521
- 2001, CHEVY IMPALA, TX: CM3K297
- 2000, FORD WINDSTAR, TX: BM3T871
- 1998, FORD EXPEDITION, TX: BP1M242
- 2000, DODGE CARAVAN, TX: DF6J808
- 1989, GMC MINIVAN, TX: DD9K689
- 1982, FORD CARGO VAN, TX: 46NFM3
- 1997, MITSUBISHI DIAMANTE, TX: DR7S872
- 2006, KAWASAKI MOTORCYCLE, TX: 4BN222
- 2000, POLARIS ATV, VIN# 4XABA38C612477602
- 1998, YAMAHA ATV, VIN# JY44KDW01WA112057

Angel Almanza  
Communications Supervisor  
WTCC: 02-28-13

trade within the South Orient rail line and provide a cost analysis for constructing and operating a transloading/intermodal facility within the Presidio County portion of the rail line.

Any inquiries or questions concerning proposals, please contact Regional Services Division Planner, Raul

Gonzalez at Raulg@riocog.org or at 915-533-0998 x 137.

WTCC: 02-28-13

#### BUILDINGS

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Martin Transport: 1-866-823-0286

#### MUSIC

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West Texas County Courier 852-3235

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



## CryptoQuip Answer

When Spider-Man or the Green Lantern goes to a deli, does he munch on a super hero sandwich?

1	+	6	×	3	21
×		-		+	
8	÷	2	+	1	5
+		×		×	
4	×	5	-	7	13
12		20		28	

# East Montana Rattlers win chess tourney

By Laura Cade  
Special to the Courier

Talented young chess players from East Montana Middle School in Clint ISD are champions of the area Scholastic Chess Tournament held last month.

With only three returning players, the team was able to build their individual skill levels to win the citywide tournament.

"This is a new team and I am so very proud of them. They have been working really hard," said Patricia Velez, chess coach for the school.

The students practice three times a week on their own schedule and once a week they meet for chess instruction. The team has received top-level instruction from a chess expert from the El Paso Chess Club, Michael Almanza, and an international chess master, Gustavo Maass.

The East Montana Middle School Rattlers came away with the first place team trophy in the 7th and 8th grade division and a second place team trophy in the 5th and 6th grade at the annual tourney held in January. Oscar Gandara took home an individual silver medal in the 5th and 6th grade division and Mark Gonzalez earned an individual bronze medal in the 7th and 8th grade division.

The citywide tournament, hosted by East Montana Middle School, drew 100 players from 23 schools from Clint ISD, El Paso ISD, Socorro ISD, Ysleta ISD and two private schools. Chess players in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade showed their skill during the competition.

The tournament is organized each year by East Montana Middle School Librarian Patricia Velez. She also coaches the students to compete in tournaments throughout the city.

## Women

From Page 3

the United States grew out of a weeklong celebration of women's contributions to culture, history and society organized by the school district of Sonoma, California, in 1978. Presentations were given at dozens of schools, hundreds of students participated in a "Real Woman" essay contest and a parade was held in downtown Santa Rosa.

A few years later, the idea caught on within communities, school districts and organizations across the country. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week.

The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution establishing a national celebration. Six years later, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the event to the entire month of March.

For information or to RSVP, contact Sue Taylor at 351-3588 or email [taylorl@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:taylorl@elpasotexas.gov).

## Briefs

From Page 1

the Rangers Top 12 Unsolved Cold Case Investigations, which features two cases from each of the state's six DPS regions. The cases that are featured in the Top 12 will be changed periodically. By putting the cases back in the public eye, it increases the possibility that people will come forward with new information or leads that can be investigated. The public will have the opportunity to submit information online through the new webpage or by calling a toll free number, 1-800-346-3243. Callers may remain anonymous. (Some of the cases have rewards associated with them, which are noted on the website.) To view the information on the Unsolved Homicides site, visit: <http://www.dps.texas.gov/TexasRangers/UnsolvedHomicides/Index.htm>. To specifically view the Texas Rangers Top 12 Cold Case Investigations visit: <http://www.dps.texas.gov/TexasRangers/UnsolvedHomicides/topCases.aspx>.

### Crime Stoppers

A man enters a Mission Valley store, indicating he has a handgun, and demands money from an employee, making this the Crime Stoppers "Crime of the Week." On Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013 just before 10:00 p.m., the suspect walked into the Family Dollar store at 8899 Alameda, approaching an employee in the back of the store and demanding money. The suspect displayed a handgun while making the demand for money. The employee turned over an undisclosed amount of money to the suspect, who then fled out the back door of the store. Through surveillance video investigators determined that the suspect appears to be a white or Hispanic male, approximately 30 years of age, wearing a black hat, black jacket, and blue jeans. The suspect also appears to have a full beard and mustache. The suspect is believed to have

fled in a late model SUV but no further description is available. If you have any information at all about the identity of the person involved in this crime, please call Crime Stoppers of El Paso immediately at 566-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip online at [www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org](http://www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org). You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you may earn a cash reward up to \$1,000.

— James Klaes

### Wanted

Angel Martinez, 41, is this week's Manhunt Monday Most Wanted Fugitive. He is 5'6" tall, weighs 285 pounds with brown hair and eyes. Martinez is a local con artist sought on theft charges. In June 2010, Martinez deceitfully took \$6,000 from a victim falsely claiming he could assist them in acquiring permanent U.S. residency. He initially charged the victim \$10,000 but only collected \$6,000. Martinez would set up appointments with immigration officials on the victim's behalf but

for political asylum, not for US residency. Charges have since been filed. In another unrelated case, Martinez was a mobile home park manager (at the time) and deceitfully schemed a victim out of \$23,350. He illegally sold



Angel Martinez

the victim a mobile home that he did not own or have the right to sell. Charges were also filed in this case. Martinez knows he is wanted and remains on the run, possibly scheming other victims in the Borderland out of money. If anyone has seen or has any information on the whereabouts of Martinez they can contact Crime Stoppers at 566-TIPS (8477). Callers will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward if the information provided leads to the apprehension Martinez.

— Deputy Jesse Tovar

## Tornillo Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended August 31, 2012

Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	ESEA Title 1 Part A Program	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>REVENUES:</b>				
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 770,540	\$ -	\$ 124,150	\$ 894,690
5800 State Program Revenues	9,446,679	-	1,065,564	10,512,243
5900 Federal Program Revenues	776,624	551,772	685,396	2,013,792
5020 Total Revenues	10,993,843	551,772	1,875,110	13,420,725
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>				
<b>Current:</b>				
0011 Instruction	4,940,487	541,836	411,986	5,894,309
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	65,542	-	79,310	144,852
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	48,694	-	95,909	144,603
0021 Instructional Leadership	209,486	-	-	209,486
0023 School Leadership	565,237	-	6,100	571,337
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	62,514	-	-	62,514
0033 Health Services	72,781	-	-	72,781
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	348,514	-	614	349,128
0035 Food Services	769,277	-	21,468	790,745
0036 Extracurricular Activities	309,619	-	-	309,619
0041 General Administration	1,173,997	-	-	1,173,997
0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations	1,429,549	-	-	1,429,459
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	125,731	-	-	125,731
0053 Data Processing Services	271,715	-	193,675	465,390
0061 Community Services	7,927	9,936	16,168	34,031
<b>Debt Service:</b>				
0071 Debt Service - Principal on Long Term Debt	58,000	-	201,148	259,148
0072 Debt Service - Interest on Long Term Debt	36,880	-	756,498	793,378
0073 Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	-	800	800
<b>Capital Outlay:</b>				
0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction	-	-	5,678	5,678
6030 Total Expenditures	10,495,860	551,772	1,789,354	12,836,986
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	497,983	-	85,756	583,739
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):</b>				
7915 Transfers In	414,379	-	3,198	417,577
8911 Transfers Out (Use)	(417,577)	-	-	(417,577)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(3,198)	-	3,198	-
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	494,785	-	88,954	583,739
0100 Fund Balance - September 1 (Beginning)	3,225,745	-	117,697	3,343,442
1300 Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	434,030	-	-	434,030
3000 Fund Balance - August 31 (Ending)	\$ 4,154,560	\$ -	\$ 206,651	\$ 4,361,211

# A rebuilt Miner basketball team will emerge in 2015

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

For those of you who are down on the UTEP basketball team because of their recent difficult stretch, don't despair.

Patience, as someone much smarter than me once said, is certainly a virtue.

The Miners have been up and down this season, which is not fulfilling for the fans, but it is right where the experts figured they would be.

Still one of the most inexperienced teams in the nation, UTEP has not only played one of the toughest schedules in their history, they have overachieved as far as I'm concerned.

When the season started the Miners couldn't dribble, pass the ball, shoot the ball or rebound. Well, they've improved but still can't rebound – and it isn't for lack of hustle.

No matter how far they go in the Conference USA tournament in a couple weeks, the best is yet to come for Tim Floyd and his program.

Circle the spring of 2015 on your college basketball calendars because I think that will

be a very special time for the Miners.

At that time, Julian Washburn, McKenzie Moore, C.J. Cooper and Cedrick Lang will be seniors. Chris Washburn will be a junior and newcomers Isaac Hamilton, Andre Spight and Vincent Hunter will be sophomores.

And who knows which of the other recruits will emerge as stars or reliable guys off the bench.

This team will be loaded with athletic guys who can score from anywhere on the court, crash the boards and play defense.

Sounds like some of those Haskins teams from years gone by.

It will take Floyd a couple years to bring all this talent together and when he does, the program will turn into a place where top recruits will want to come to play.

When Floyd first arrived to El Paso as the new head coach, he asked the question, why can't UTEP be a top-10 program? Why can't we challenge for a national championship?

I'm certainly not going to argue with him.

## What's in a name

I have to admit that in my younger days I

was known to lay down a bet or two on certain sporting events.

I haven't made a bet in years – which makes watching the games so much more relaxing.

But even when I was young and daring, I did not have the courage to make the kind of bet a married couple made recently.

It seems that Marissa Pena, a 31-year-old lifetime Dallas Cowboys fan made a bet with her husband, Emmanuel Vega, who is a Washington Redskins fan.

First of all, how they live under the same roof under those circumstances is beyond me.

But before last year's Thanksgiving Day meeting between the two teams, they wanted to bet something on the game.

Of course, they could have bet money or a dinner or a massage or taking out the trash or doing the yard work or making breakfast in bed or any other thing a husband and wife could wager.

But these two wanted to be different. They wanted to put a little more on the line.

And they did.

Shakespeare once wrote, "What's in a name?"

Well, to this family, one name will always be synonymous with that Thanksgiving game.

And that one name will belong to their son.

The bet, as you've probably guessed by now, has to do with the name of their first son, who will join us here on Earth in about a month.

The bet was that if the Cowboys won, the son's name would be Miles Austin Vega. If the Redskins won, his name would be Robert Griffin Vega.

Do you remember who won that game? Let me give you a hint, next month a little man will be born and he will be known as RGV.

The Redskins beat the Cowboys 38-31.

The dad, Emmauel, told the press that he was second guessing himself the whole time about the bet, trying to fathom being the father of a possible Dallas Cowboys fan.

He joked, "[with that name] ... there's no doubt he would be a Cowboys fan. My son... a Cowboys fan? I might have to disown him..."

As for mom, all she said was, "all's fair in love and war."

There's been no comment from RGV yet.

## A sporting view By Mark Vasto

### Hitting singles out of the park

It's not that I wasn't used to seeing my boss at the time give me a look of utter disappointment, but this time I was quick to recognize that it was more a signal of defeat – hers.

I didn't wear glasses then, but if I did, this would have been a perfect moment to take them off, slide my chair around and emote some sort of

empathy.

"Got your (butt) handed to you again, didn't ya?" I asked with a smug grin.

"I'm getting killed out there," she complained. "I go in front of the board, and I can hear their eyes glazing over. She gets up there and they go wild for her."

"Why's that? It's not like she's stunningly attractive or anything like that," I reasoned.

"No, man... you don't get it," she said, rolling her eyes. "She's using all of these sports analogies! I don't know any of them."

"This looks like a job for a sports writer!" I declared, stepped into the supply closet and emerged moments later dressed the same way but with a notepad and two pens.

"Look," I said, drawing a baseball diamond. "Tell me what she said at

the meeting? That she was looking to 'hit a home run,' right?"

"Come on, even I know that one. But she says things like 'we're not trying to hit a home run here, we're just looking for a hit here.' What does that even mean?"

"It's nonsense," I said. "First of all, a 'home run' is a 'hit.' Also, the whole phrase is just another sports cliché. Even if she wanted to hit a 'single,' she could still excel at hitting singles if she 'hits it out of the park,' get it?"

"No."

"Good. The next time she does that to you – a term called 'grandstanding' by the way – you just ask her to hold up. There are lots of ways to get on base. Is it a rope single? Was it a slow roller? Did you bunt your way to first?"

She wasn't getting it.

"I don't get it," she said.

"It's business, and like any game, you go out there to win. What is

this 'only get a hit' stuff? What is she... afraid to succeed? Is she opening a restaurant? Is this a 'soft opening?'"

She smiled. She was stepping up.

"Well, when it's your turn to talk, you just tell the board that you don't care what's tossed toward your plate because your team's not above taking bases on balls. What matters is getting to score."

"Perfect! Thanks!"

Satisfied, I wrote a few turns of phrase down and handed her the paper.

"There. Now go deliver your pitch."

She took the paper out of my mitt and walked towards the door, then paused to turn around.

"I thought we were hitting, though."

Mark Vasto is a veteran sportswriter who lives in Kansas City. (c) 2013 King Features Synd., Inc.



— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

**HARDWARE** – San Elizario High School Lady Eagles Basketball Varsity Team players, from left, Angelica Alvarez, Marlyn Orozco, Jessica Soto, Denise Araujo, and Stephanie Reyes show off their bi-district championship trophy.

## San Eli HS girls reach area basketball playoffs

By Cynthia P. Marentes  
Special to the Courier

The Lady Eagles basketball team from San Elizario High School concluded their season with a trip to the area state playoffs and a record of 20-10 but not before playing in a nail biting bi-district game that will not easily be forgotten.

The varsity players under the direction of coach Josie Contreras captured the class 4A girls high school basketball bi-district title on February 12 in a close game

against Burges High School. That victory earned the team a spot in the area playoffs where they played against the Plainview High School Lady Bulldogs on February 15 in Monahans, Texas. San Elizario High School was defeated 50-20 in that area round game.

Despite the loss to Plainview, the Lady Eagles were still riding high from their victory only a few days earlier against Burges High School by a narrow score of 42-40. The visiting Lady Eagles played a closely contested game before a large and loud crowd of San Elizario fans that erupted in celebration

when senior Sabrina Tapia sunk a three-point shot to cinch the win. With less than 10 seconds on the clock the No. 10-ranked San Elizario team managed to come out on top in a hard-fought match up against eighth-ranked Burges High School. The leading scorer on the Lady Eagles line up that night was junior guard Abby Flores who racked up 17 points as well as that final pass to Tapia for the decisive 3-pointer.

This was the second year in a row that coach Contreras has led the Lady Eagles to a bi-district playoff appearance.

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**40**  
Years  
2013

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**True Texas Facts** by Roger T. Moore  
Feb. 26, 1888- The less than beautiful Goddess of Liberty is placed atop the state Capital.



**Social Security Q&A** By Ray Vigil

**Q:** I need to make changes to my Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. When can I do that?

**A:** Open season for Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage runs from October 15 to December 7. The Medicare Part D prescription drug program is available to all Medicare beneficiaries. Joining a Medicare prescription drug plan is voluntary and participants pay an additional monthly premium. While you are looking at changing your plan, you might want to revisit the *Application for Extra Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs*. If you have limited income and resources, you also may be eligible for *Extra Help* to pay monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and prescription co-payments. The *Extra Help* is estimated to be worth about \$4,000 per year. To find out more, go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/prescriptionhelp). For more information about the Medicare Part D prescription drug program itself, visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227; TTY 1-877-486-2048).

receive your replacement Social Security card. However, if we need to verify documents you present as proof of identity, it could take longer in some cases. For more information about your Social Security card and number, visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber).

**Q:** I'm 38 years old and have been approved to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits. I was surprised to learn that my payment will be reduced because I live with my mom. Why's that?

**A:** SSI is a needs-based program, so any other income you receive – including non-monetary income such as help with your bills or other expenses – can have an effect on your benefit payment. Your SSI payments may be reduced if you are receiving food, shelter, or monetary assistance. If you move, or if the situation in your mom's household changes, be sure to contact Social Security. For more information, visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi).

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

**Q:** I applied for a replacement Social Security card last week but have not received it. When should I expect to receive my new card?

**A:** On average, it takes approximately 10 to 14 days to

**STRANGE BUT TRUE**  
By Samantha Weaver

- It was screenwriter, playwright, novelist, director and producer Ben Hecht who made the following sage observation: "Trying to determine what is going on in the world by reading newspapers is like trying to tell the time by watching the second hand of a clock."

- Those who study such things say that the Earth spins faster on its axis in September than it does in March.

- When the TV show "Bewitched" first started filming, the star, Elizabeth Montgomery, was just a month away from giving birth to her first child, so the first five episodes were shot almost in their entirety without her. It wasn't until the baby was a few weeks old that she was able to go on the set to film her scenes.

- If you're a fan of the Beatles, you probably won't be surprised to learn that during the decade of the 1960s, they had more top 10 hits and more No. 1 records than any other recording artist.

- Before the June 1944 invasion of Normandy, a crossword puzzle that was printed in the London Daily Telegraph contained the words "mulberry," "Neptune," "Omaha," "overlord" and "Utah." That may not seem to be a fact of much interest, but it turns out that those were all secret code words used by the Allied military in planning the upcoming offensive. The puzzle's author, a schoolteacher, was tracked down and interrogated, but the puzzle's content was ultimately chalked up to coincidence.

- The country's first pay phone was installed in a bank in Hartford, Conn., in 1889. It cost 5 cents to place a call, the equivalent of \$1.25 today.

Thought for the Day: "Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with important matters."

– Albert Einstein

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**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.

	+		×		21
×		-		+	
	÷		+		5
+		×		×	
	×		-		13
12		20			28

**DIFFICULTY: ★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!

1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Answer Page 4

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**Weekly SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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: T equals O

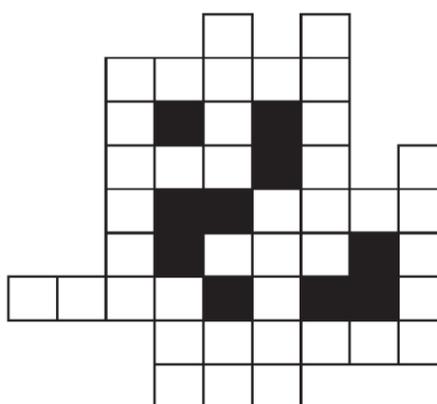
MANJ CWKZND-FGJ TD LAN  
RDNNJ BGJLNDJ RTNC LT G  
ZNBK, ZTNC AN FQJOA TJ G  
CQWND ANDT CGJZMKOA?

Answer Page 4

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- YWH
- LANUAN
- ♥ LOTLA
- RAPH
- TWERPE
- ♥ ODT
- ♥ RYPE
- UNDOH
- ♥ APN
- RYDIBH
- TAYRP
- THIL



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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