



## NEWSBRIEFS

### A spy story

Palestinians say they caught an armed Israeli spy swimming off the Gaza coast, reports the Association of Mature American Citizens. They claim the dolphin made “suspicious” moves as it swam near the Port of Gaza and that it was carrying a variety of spyware, including a deadly dart gun. The Israelis admit that they do have a fleet of Dolphin Class submarines, but deny that they recruit, train and send sea-going mammals out to spy on the Palestinians. The claim is reminiscent of the Sudanese story a few years back that they snared an eagle that was actually a Mossad agent and the 2010 Egyptian tale that Israeli sharks were attacking Red Sea tourists.

— John Grimaldi

### SISD tax rate

The Socorro ISD Board of Trustees this week approved the 2015-16 tax rate of \$1.27 per \$100 valuation. The rate includes \$0.97 for maintenance and operations, which is well below the rate permitted without voter approval of \$1.04. The district can raise its tax rate \$.07 without asking for voter approval; however, the Team SISD Board has maintained its commitment to only assessing the minimal rate necessary to fulfill the district’s mission of preparing students for the college and career of their choice. “In an era when many local entities are having to ask their constituents for tax increases, SISD has been able to sustain and grow its programs while maintaining a fiscally responsible tax rate,” said Board President Angelica Rodriguez. “It is incumbent on us to be good stewards of taxpayers’ investment in SISD, and a major part of that is to only collect what is absolutely necessary.” The board approved a \$407 million budget for the 2015-16 school year in June. The budget includes a 1.5 percent salary increase for employees. “We are proud of the fact that year after year we have been able to give our employees a well-deserved increase in pay while maintaining a balanced budget and consistent tax rate,” Rodriguez added. “This team (SISD Board of Trustees and Superintendent Dr. José Espinoza) has found a great balance in serving the needs of our school community while respecting our taxpayers’ pocketbooks.”

— Christina Flores-Jones

*Medical science says that whiskey can't cure a cold. But neither can medical science.*

— Quips & Quotes

## Hopp is state superintendent finalist



By Cynthia P. Marentes  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO – San Elizario Independent School District Superintendent Sylvia Hopp has been selected as a state finalist for the annual Superintendent of the Year award sponsored by the Texas Association of School Boards. Hopp is one of five finalists for the state award and is representing Region 19.

On August 22, the Education Service Center (ESC) Region 19 recognized Superintendent Hopp at its annual Teacher of the Year Awards Gala. Dr. Armando Aguirre, Executive Director for ESC Region 19 introduced Hopp on stage and presented her with an award in front of hundreds of educators from throughout El Paso and Hudspeth counties.

“I wish to thank the Region 19 Board of Directors and Dr. Aguirre for their continued support not only for myself but for all area superintendents. Together we can make a great impact for all students in Region 19,” Hopp stated.

Hopp has 35 years of experience

RECOGNITION – Superintendent Sylvia Hopp (center) is joined by San Elizario ISD Teachers of the Year Obad Hernandez and Adriana Castruita. All three were recognized along with other fellow honorees at the Region 19 Teacher of the Year Awards Gala held at the El Paso Camino Real Hotel on August 22.

— Photo courtesy San Elizario ISD

See HOPP, Page 5

## Collaborative offers financial relief alternative

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY – To help stem the tide of families and individuals falling prey to payday and auto title loan lenders’ unscrupulous practices, a local not-for-profit organization is implementing a new social loan program that is designed to help low-income families and individuals have access to loan capital and learn to build on their credit opportunities.

El Paso Collaborative for Community and Economic Development (EPCCED) is introducing the initiative, called Lending Circles, in partnership with Mission Asset Fund (MAF), another not for profit organization based in San Francisco CA. According to MAF officials, the nonprofit organizations’ mutual mission is to create a fair financial marketplace for hardworking families.

Coordinating the local lending circles effort is Juan Garcia. Assisting him will be the EPCCED staff including Terry Craig, a loan specialist and compliance officer; Lorraine Frias, a project coordinator; and Johanna Guillen, executive director of EPCCED.

Guillen said that she sees the new lending program as being similar to a Mexican “tanda” in which individuals form small groups that lend money to



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

HELPING HANDS – El Paso Collaborative for Community and Economic Development (EPCCED) is piloting a new program, called Lending Circles, to help low income families get access to interest-free loans and gain information for improving their credit history. Assisting with the initiative will be the EPCCED staff, above from left, Terry Craig, loan specialist and compliance officer; Johanna Guillen, executive director of EPCCED; and Lorraine Frias, project coordinator.

See EPCCED, Page 4

**Veterans Post** By Freddy Groves

*Camp Lejeune claims deadline*

If you're a veteran with an illness that you believe was caused by the drinking water at Camp Lejeune, you have until Sept. 24, 2016, to establish yourself as a Camp Lejeune Veteran and be eligible to claim out-of-pocket reimbursement of costs going back to Aug. 6, 2012.

After a long, drawn-out process, the Department of Veterans Affairs is finally looking into the possibility of establishing some presumptives for Camp Lejeune service. How's that for being

definite? After all, the water was contaminated from the 1950s to the 1980s.

And yes, the VA will treat veterans with any of a list of 15 illnesses caused by drinking water at Camp Lejeune laced with fuel and dry cleaning chemicals. That's the result of the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012, but it doesn't include disability. Labeling the illnesses as presumptives and service-related will allow disability payments.

As of this writing, the VA benefits page says you must be ill and have "a medical opinion indicating the disease is a result of exposure to the contaminated water at Camp Lejeune." The illnesses are: esophageal cancer, breast cancer, kidney cancer, multiple myeloma, renal toxicity, female infertility, scleroderma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, lung cancer, bladder cancer, leukemia, myelodysplastic syndromes, hepatic steatosis, miscarriage and neurobehavioral effects. The dates you (or family members) would have needed to be exposed to the contaminated water are from Aug. 1, 1953 to Dec. 31, 1987.

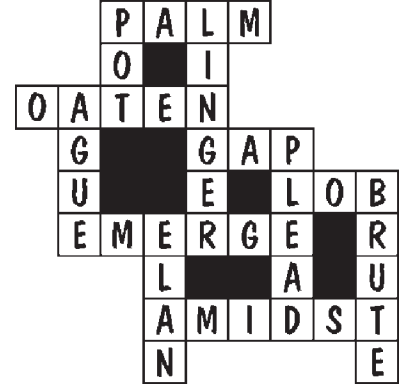
(That date used to be 1957.)

To file for health care or to sign up as a Camp Lejeune Veteran, go online to [www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov), or call 800-827-1000. For more information, call 877-222-VETS (8387) or see [www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune).

For family members who were made ill by the water, see [www.clfamilymembers.fsc.va.gov](http://www.clfamilymembers.fsc.va.gov).

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42		28		34	



**El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate**

The EL PASO COUNTY TORNILLO WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on Thursday, September 3, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., at St. Rita Hall, 19211 Cobb St., Tornillo, TX 79853. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

- FOR** the proposal: **Jose Luis Soria, Eliberto Nuñez, Nancy Tarin, Clemente Escalante, and Alonzo Flores**
- AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**
- PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**
- ABSENT:** **Kenneth Morgan and Silvestre Suarez**

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)	0.100000/\$100	0.100000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value	\$ 44,259	\$ 47,304
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 44,259	\$ 47,304
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 44.26	\$ 47.30
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	+\$ 3.04	+ 6.87%

**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.

**WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER**

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**FOOTBALL IS BACK**

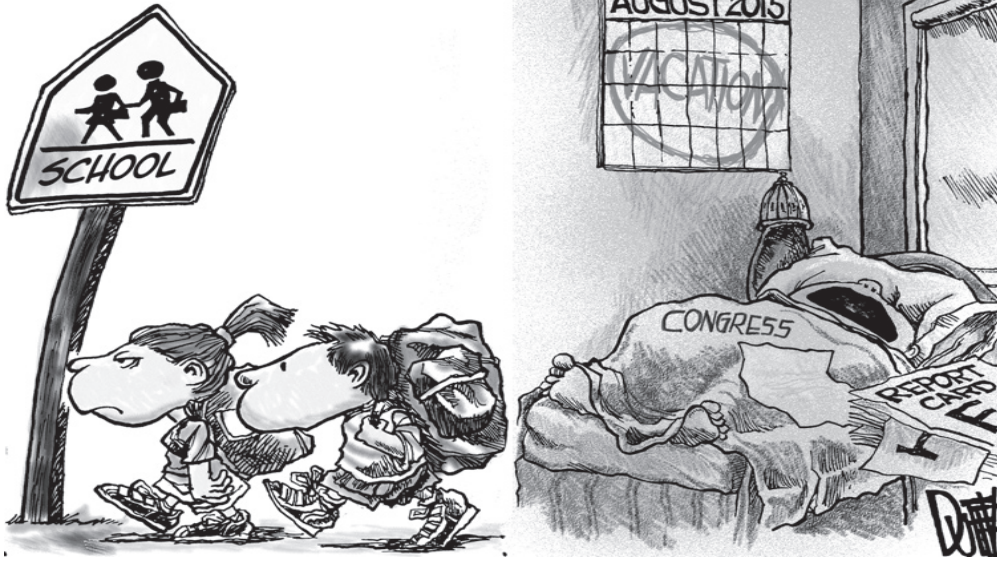
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**2015 HOME SCHEDULE**

INCARNATE WORD 9/26  
 UTSA 10/7  
 FLORIDA ATLANTIC 10/24  
 RICE 11/7  
 LA TECH 11/21

**SUMMER VACATION HAS ENDED FOR KIDS ALL OVER.**

**WITH SOME EXCEPTIONS.**



## 2015 PROPERTY TAX RATES Village of Vinton Small Taxing Unit Notice

The **Village of Vinton** will hold a meeting at 6:30 p.m. on **September 8, 2015** at City Hall located at 436 East Vinton Rd., Vinton, TX 79821 to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2015. The proposed tax rate is \$0.368702 per \$100 of value.

The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the **Village of Vinton** by 9.16%.

WTCC: 08-27-15

## Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 2 Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 2 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at 1:00 p.m., at the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, TX 79902. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

**FOR** the proposal: **Doug Borret, Joann Wardy, Hector Esparza, Alejandro Limon and Ann Jorjorian-Raynal**

**AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**

**PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**

**ABSENT:** **NONE**

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)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value	\$ 258,841.00	\$ 268,645.00
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 258,841.00	\$ 268,645.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,941.31	\$ 2,014.84
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	+ \$ 73.53 + 3.79%	

### 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.

## Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 3 Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 3 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., at the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, TX 79902. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

**FOR** the proposal: **Ken Weaver, Mark Dyer, Ivan Alcocer and Sandy Boswell**

**AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**

**PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**

**ABSENT:** **Gus Haddad**

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)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value	\$ 114,032.00	\$ 137,629.00
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 114,032.00	\$ 137,629.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 855.24	\$ 1,032.22
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	+ \$ 176.98 + 20.96%	

### 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.

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
TO ALL INTERESTED  
PERSONS / PARTIES:**

The *West Texas County Courier* will publish two editions early. The October 1 and October 8, 2015 issues will go to press on Monday, September 21, 2015.

All material for these publications must be submitted to the *West Texas County Courier* no later than Thursday, September 10, 2015.

The *West Texas County Courier* office will close beginning Thursday, September 21, 2015. The office will open again on Monday, October 12, 2015.

**EPCCED**

From Page 1

each other at zero percent interest, zero fees, equal monthly payments, and rotate the loan proceeds among the members each month.

“The new twist to the traditional ‘tanda’ is that MAF reports the monthly payments to credit bureaus and EPCCED guarantees the loans,” Guillen explained. She said that MAF has promoted these types of joint ventures for years in other states, like California. “One of the favorable impacts of the program is that credit scores can improve by as much as 50 points in a 6-month period,” she cited.

The lending circles program also

has a financial education component. Participants must enroll in EPCCED’s financial literacy classes to be in a lending circle, stated Guillen. She said that the classes consist of financial education on how to manage personal and business finances effectively and how to get out of the cycle of debt.

According to Guillen, the official lending circles endeavor is just one of several services available through the EPCCED organization. Since 1996, the agency has implemented programs that address affordable housing, small business entrepreneurship, and other facets of economic development for residents of El Paso County and the surrounding region.

“Whether it is a family participating in a first time home buyers down payment

program or a small business owner wanting to take the next step for growing his or her business, EPCCED offers social services programs that can facilitate the process,” stated Guillen.

EPCCED staff is now taking applications for its lending circles program, which it plans to start soon. Interested individuals must have a valid government issued identification card and Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number(ITIN). They must also have a current bank account or be eligible to open one.

For more information about the lending circles program, visit its website at <http://lendingcircles.org>, call (915) 590-1210 ext. 152, or send email to [juan@epcollab.org](mailto:juan@epcollab.org).

**Paseo del Este Municipal  
Utility District No. 4  
Notice of Public Hearing  
on Tax Rate**

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 4 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on Friday, September 11, 2015 at 9:30 a.m., at the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, TX 79902. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

- FOR** the proposal: **Lori Jackson, Isaac Rodriguez, Sammy Romero and Carlos Lascurain**
- AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**
- PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**
- ABSENT:** **Oscar Macias**

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)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	NA	
Average appraised value	NA	NA
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	NA	NA
Average taxable value*	NA	NA
Tax on average residence homestead	NA	NA
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	NA	NA

**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\*.

\*This District has no residence homesteads for tax year 2015.

**Paseo del Este Municipal  
Utility District No. 5  
Notice of Public Hearing  
on Tax Rate**

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 5 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at 10:15 a.m., at the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, TX 79902. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

- FOR** the proposal: **Salvador Alonzo, Jr., Mike McLean Gerado Sanchez, Humberto Juarez and Veronica Lascurain**
- AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**
- PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**
- ABSENT:** **NONE**

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)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value	\$ 149,674.00	\$ 158,479.00
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 149,674.00	\$ 158,479.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,122.56	\$ 1,188.59
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	+\$ 66.04	+ 5.88%

**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.

**Hopp**

From Page 1

in education administration and has been at the helm of San Elizario ISD for three years serving approximately 3,800 students. Of note to the selection committee were San Elizario ISD's English as a second language programs to bring parents into the schools, outreach efforts through home visits, and initiatives to build cooperative relationships with city leadership. Hopp earned

her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Texas at El Paso. She serves on the Commissioner's Superintendents Cabinet, and is active in the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA), Texas Association of Mid-Size Schools, Texas Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, and Far West Texas School Boards Association, among others. The Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) state selection committee interviewed 18 regional winners August 14-

15 in Austin. The five 2015 finalists were then chosen based on their responses on issues as business engagement, teacher retention, diversity of the state's student population, philosophy, educational leadership, challenges facing local school districts, and advocacy on behalf of public education. The 2015 Superintendent of the Year will be announced October 3 at the TASA/TASB Convention in Austin where the winning superintendent will receive an award from program underwriter Balfour.

**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: **A** equals **Y**

HLEEUHI AUL WU HUDI DBNM  
 BCW ESUYI IW NU QBCJLTHM BC  
 ICIDA. MBQI AUL WTQTIW BCW  
 YUCJLISIW?

Answer Page 7

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**Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 6  
 Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate**

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 6 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at 2:00 p.m., at the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, TX 79902. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

- FOR** the proposal: **Lorraine Huit, Bob Peterson, Jimmy Ray Pell and Jerry Romero**
- AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**
- PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**
- ABSENT:** **Sheldon Wheeler**

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)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value*	NA	NA
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	NA	NA
Average taxable value*	NA	NA
Tax on average residence homestead	NA	NA
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	NA	NA

**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.

\*This District has no residence homesteads for tax year 2015.

**Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 7  
 Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate**

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 7 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at 2:45 p.m., at the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, TX 79902. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

- FOR** the proposal: **Tom Hansen, Manuel Garnica, Rene Goldfien, Chris Cragin and Lana Ulrich**
- AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**
- PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**
- ABSENT:** **NONE**

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)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value	\$ 140,316.00	\$ 144,935.00
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	NA	NA
Average taxable value	\$ 140,316.00	\$ 144,935.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,052.37	\$ 1,087.01
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	+\$ 34.64	+ 3.29%

**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.

# Get your tailgates and foam fingers ready for football

**By Steve Escajeda**  
*Special to the Courier*

The days are still hovering in the mid 90s and everyone in El Paso is still sporting their shorts and t-shirts.

But there's no denying what's quickly coming up around the country – football season.

And believe it or not – the local high school football season kicks off this weekend with a full slate of games.

It's hard to believe it's finally here.

Quarterbacks and screaming coaches and cheerleaders and mascots and

marching bands and fumbles and first downs and homecoming and all that stuff starts this weekend.

Of course the local district that gets the most coverage is 1-6A – the big boys.

And this year six of the seven teams have a legitimate shot at claiming one of the four playoff spots.

As it has been over the last decade, only the Socorro Bulldogs appear to be out of the chase. Although they did show some improvement last season.

It'll be a battle between El Dorado, Franklin, Eastwood, Coronado, Americas and Montwood.

And though Montwood has been the

most consistently successful team in the district for over a decade, it did stumble to a surprising 1-8 record last year.

But if anyone knows coach Chuck Veliz and his track record, the Rams should rebound quickly and return to familiar territory in the thick of the league race.

With returning quarterback Austyn Hill (3,112 passing yds, 37 TD passes and 5 rushing TDs) and running back Sergio Gonzalez (1,377 yds and 13 touchdowns), the El Dorado Aztecs should be the team to beat.

Both Franklin and Coronado lost a lot of key players from a year ago and it could be the Westsiders who may have

the toughest time. Of course it'll depend on the young guys coming up to fill in those spots.

It looks like El Dorado, Americas and Eastwood will be leading the way with Franklin, Coronado and Montwood fighting it out for that final postseason slot.

What'll be fun this season is watching two of the most intriguing and exciting players in the city in this district.

Americas' Josh Fields, still only a junior, is expected to explode onto the scene this year. As a sophomore last season, Fields

See FOOTBALL, Page 8

## Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 8 Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 8 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on Friday, September 11, 2015, at 10:30 a.m., at the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, TX 79902. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

**FOR** the proposal: **Manuel A. Quiñones, A.J. Silva, Suzan Spurlin, Sylvia Touchstone, and Alejandro Contreras**

**AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**

**PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**

**ABSENT:** **NONE**

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 Adopted	This Year Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value	NA	\$ 128,667.00
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	NA	\$ 0
Average taxable value	NA	\$ 128,667.00
Tax on average residence homestead	NA	\$ 965.00
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	NA	NA

### 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.

*\*This District has no residence homesteads for tax year 2014.*

## Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 9 Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 9 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on Friday, September 11, 2015 at 11:30 a.m., at the offices of Hunt Communities, LLC, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, TX 79902. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

**FOR** the proposal: **Yvette Lascurain, Richard Owen, Olivia Zuniga and JoAnn Aguayo.**

**AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**

**PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**

**ABSENT:** **Elizabeth Bustamante**

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 Adopted	This Year Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value	NA	NA
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	NA	NA
Average taxable value*	NA	NA
Tax on average residence homestead	NA	NA
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	NA	NA

### 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\*.

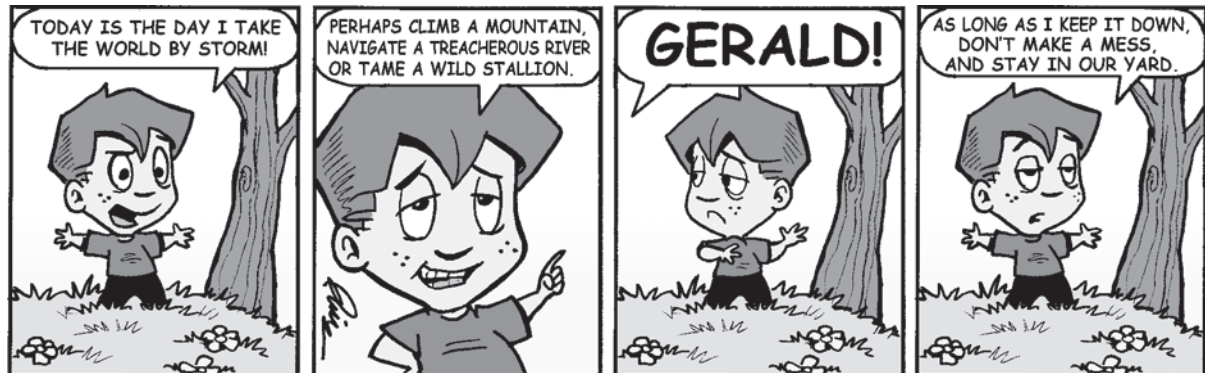
*\*This District has no residence homesteads for tax year 2015.*

# Comix

## OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



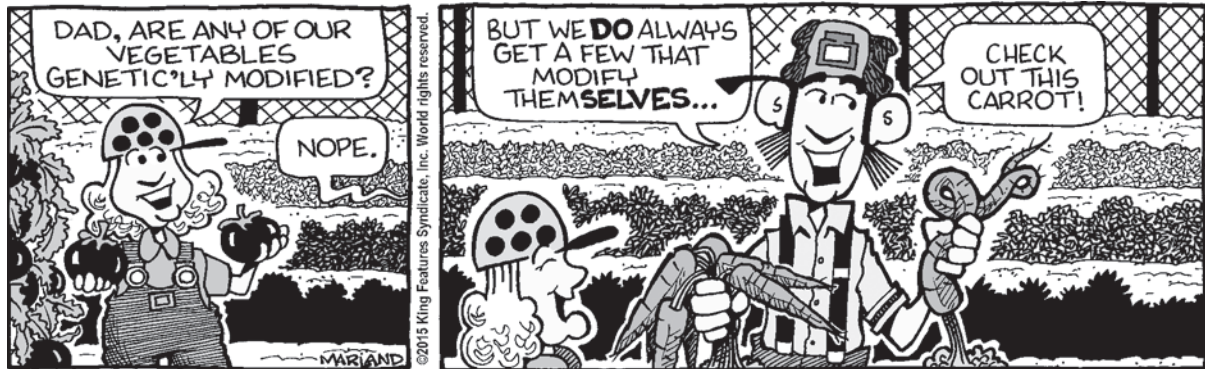
## AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



## THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



## R.F.D. By Mike Marland



## CryptoQuip Answer

Suppose you do some math and proceed to vanquish an enemy. Have you divided and conquered?

## 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.

	x		-		28
x		÷		+	
	-		x		36
-		x		x	
	x		+		23
42		28		34	

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult  
★★★ GO FIGURE!

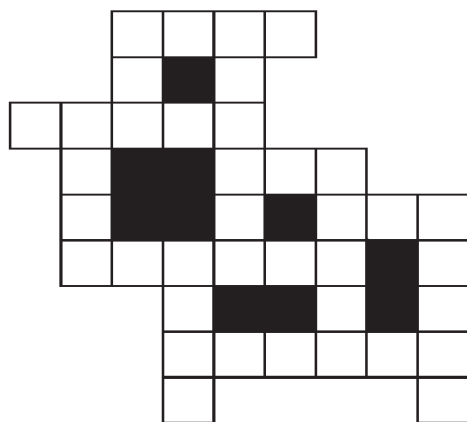
1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 9

Answer Page 2

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- PGA
- ♥SADTIM
- ♥EBURT
- ♥NAEL
- NIRGLE
- ♥TPO
- UAGE
- ♥DELPA
- OBL
- GERMEE
- ♥NEATO
- ♥MALP



Answer Page 2

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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## Super Crossword

### BREAKING STORY

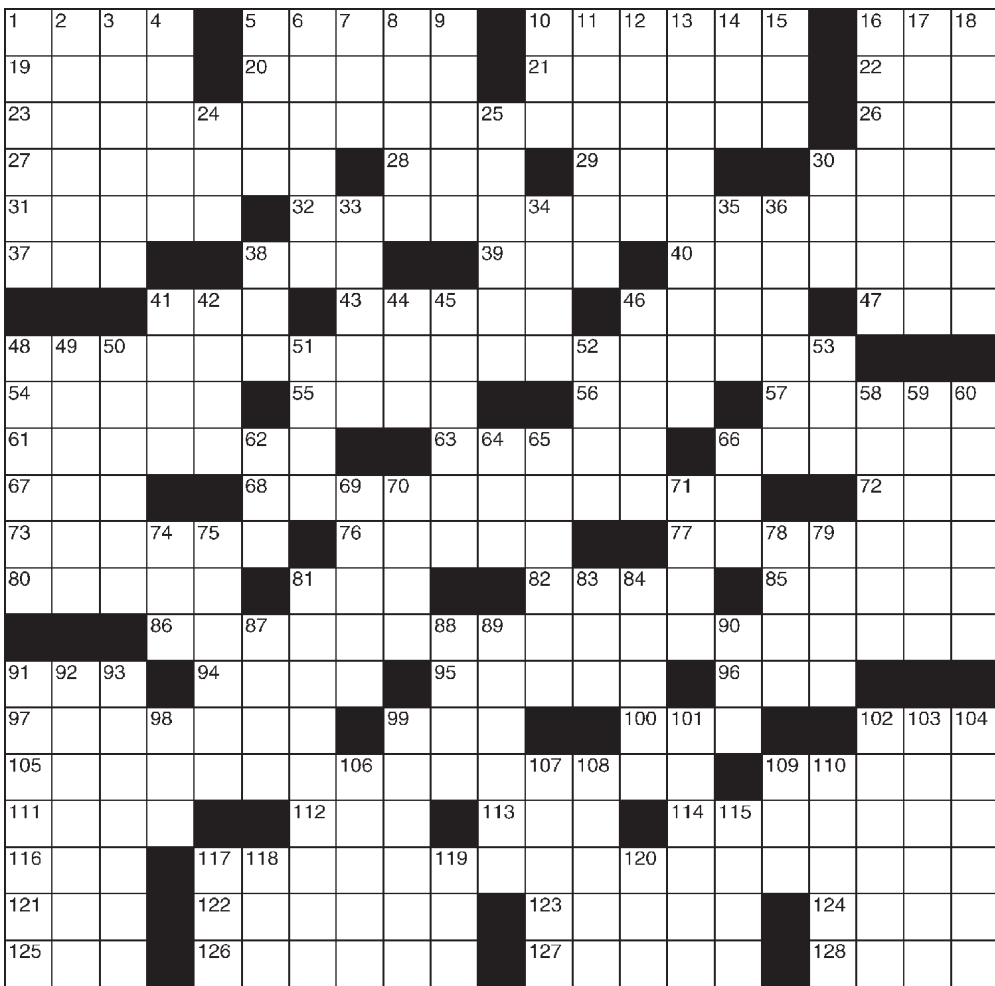
- ACROSS**
- On \_ with (equivalent to)
  - Viking letters
  - South American plains
  - Cap for a Scot
  - "Us" or "them"
  - Prefix with structure
  - Lacking scruples
  - \_ culpa
  - Place for test tubes
  - Bruins great
  - Bobby
  - Lemonade alternative
  - Diving ideal
  - Zero
  - Blind as \_
  - "Can it!"
  - Warehouse or silo, e.g.
  - Prom suit
  - Antique auto
  - Chum
  - Noisy turkey
  - Hearth residue
  - Title giver
  - Lord's lady
  - Koch and Bradley
  - Saying "Yay me!"
  - say
  - Oldsmobile's last model
  - "Strange \_ may seem..."
  - \_ out a living
  - "You are not!"

- retort
- Is a sign of
- It parallels the fibula
- Pago Pago
- inhabitant
- VCR tape displacer
- Place for excavating building rock
- Corrosive cleaner
- Sobieski of "Max"
- Beach locale
- In ciphertext
- Scandalous company of 2001
- Senator, e.g.
- "\_ shame!"
- La Scala show
- Uproar over a disputed matter
- Kennel noise
- "... friend who never made \_": Tennyson
- Laundry cycle
- Lion's place
- Brussels site
- Suffix with racket
- Up 'til
- Many run
- Windows
- Winner's loot
- "Ave \_"
- Medium gait
- Refrain syllable
- Former Egypt-Syr. alliance
- Twofold nature
- Lend support

- Obsolete hypothesis about the universe's origin
  - British verb suffix
  - Wounded
  - Serving a purpose
  - Rock group
  - Mötley \_
  - Letter before Springfield's Flanders
  - Have a fixation (on)
  - Repeats
  - Give lip to?
- DOWN**
- Give a hand
  - Machu \_ (site of Incan ruins)
  - Farewells, in France
  - Oboe's pair
  - Starchy grain
  - Antsy feeling
  - Falcons' org.
  - Bard's Muse
  - Cavalry sword
  - Ford product
  - Blown away
  - Recurring subject
  - Spread, as ideas
  - Rowboat propeller
  - Furtive
  - Big name in cell service
  - Made bubbly, in a way
  - They suffer for believing
  - To the \_ degree
  - Via wagering

- Balkan Peninsula
- Salad bar tool
- Wise adviser
- "Hot Diggity" singer Perry
- Two-nation peninsula
- Letter before sigma
- Bushy '60s do
- Fife resident
- Jackie O's
- Onassis
- Kathy of country
- Capital of Senegal
- Wrangler's seat
- An hour before noon
- Shylock, e.g.
- Publisher Condé
- Starship princess
- Holiday tuber
- Crumble into particles
- Bears Hall of Famer Gale
- Eventually
- Suffix with Peking
- High figs. for brains
- Shirt fastener
- Thesaurus word: Abbr.
- Christmas carol opener
- Court plea, in brief
- Be a parent to
- "NCIS: \_ Angeles"
- Involve by

- necessity
- Shore nook
- Unrestricted
- Advocates
- Seat holders
- Have the helm
- "That makes two \_"
- Liberated, in German
- Big-top event
- Poem variety
- Not partake
- Musical echo
- Inundated
- "Skedaddle!"
- Dodges
- High school in "Grease"
- Lemon, e.g.
- Agree (to)
- Draw up
- Hollywood's O'Neal
- Preach, say
- \_jongg (tile game)
- Smart \_ (wise guy)
- Plains tribe
- HBO rival
- Indenting key
- NFL gains
- Aunt, to Inés



Answer Page 7

**Football**

From Page 6

rushed for 1,016 yards and scored 10 touchdowns.

And yes, he is the younger brother of former Americas' running back Jack Fields, who went on to play at Boise State.

Maybe the most versatile player in the city is Eastwood wide receiver/backup quarterback/defensive back, Richie Rodriguez.

As a junior, Rodriguez caught 56 passes a year ago for 1,098 yards. He also rushed for 557 yards and scored a total of 18 touchdowns.

Let's put it this way, Rodriguez accounted for over 177 yards of some kind, per game.

In District 1-5A, Canutillo, Andress and Chapin have been penciled in as playoff teams for quite some time now. And don't expect anything different this year.

Of course Canutillo advanced all the way to the state final four in 2014.

But don't expect the Eagles to duplicate that feat after losing their quarterback and their top two rushers to graduation.

The big question in this league is who will claim the final playoff spot.

Bowie and El Paso High seem to be the frontrunners, but don't count out the Irvin Rockets as well.

In District 2-5A, Eastlake and Del Valle appear to be the teams to beat. Eastlake lost some key players to graduation and of course, Del Valle is without all-everything quarterback Steven Montes, now with the University of Colorado.

But both teams have enough coming back to solidify playoff appearances.

The other two playoff openings could go to either Ysleta, Parkland, Bel Air or Hanks.

It was good seeing the Indians make the playoffs a year ago. But losing quarterback Justin Maese is going to be tough to replace.

And then there are the smaller schools like Cathedral and Fabens and Clint and Mountain View and Anthony and Tornillo and San Elizario, who stir up the fan base of their communities.

High school football season is a time that locals look forward to all year long.

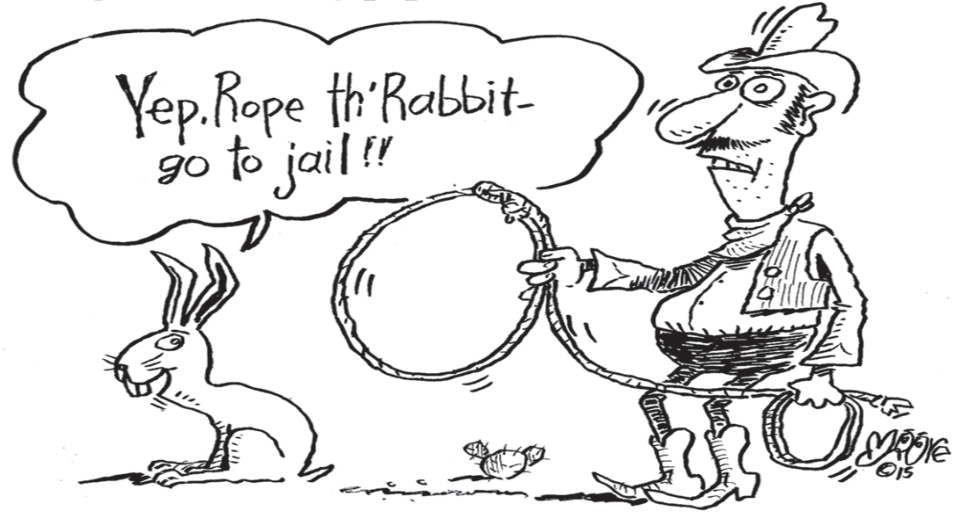
It means a new beginning, a changing of the season, excitement and hope.

And it all starts this weekend.

**MOORE TEXAS**

by Roger Todd Moore

A law outlawing Jack Rabbit roping was enacted in 1978 although it was wildly popular with the humans.



**Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 11 of El Paso County**

**Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate**

The Paseo del Este Municipal Utility District No. 11 of El Paso County will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2015 on Thursday, September 10, 2015, at 11:30 a.m., at the offices of Hunt Communities, 4401 N. Mesa, El Paso, TX 79902. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

- FOR** the proposal: **Curtis R. "Pete" Sellers, Mary Suzann Pell, Jose R. Soto, and Marisa Lascurain**
- AGAINST** the proposal: **NONE**
- PRESENT** and not voting: **NONE**
- ABSENT:** **Darwin Voge**

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)	0.750000/\$100	0.750000/\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ 0/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	0%	
Average appraised value	\$ 139,780.00	\$ 146,087.00
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average taxable value	\$ 139,780.00	\$ 146,087.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,048.35	\$ 1,095.65
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)	+ \$ 47.30	
and percentage of increase (+/-)	+ 4.51%	

**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.

**Notice of Tax Revenue Increase**

The **EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1** conducted public hearings on August 20, 2015 and August 27, 2015 on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the **EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1** from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 0.000041 percent.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised last year at last year's tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value was \$1,600,629.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value, excluding tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$1,700,641.

The total tax revenue proposed to be raised this year at the proposed tax rate of \$0.100000 for each \$100 of taxable value, including tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year, is \$1,880,877.

The Board of **EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 1** is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on September 3, 2015 at 14151 Nunda Ave., Horizon City, TX 79928 at 6:30 PM.