

# WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 28, No. 33

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABENS, SAN ELIZARIO AND TORNILLO

AUGUST 16, 2001

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Wide-open drugs

Border Patrol agents from the El Paso sector seized 1,304 pounds of marijuana along an irrigation canal on the morning of Aug. 8. Agents were alerted to activity in an area about six miles west of the Fabens Port of Entry and spotted two people hiding in an irrigation canal. A few minutes later, the two were approached by a silver 1990 Chevy pickup truck. When agents arrived to investigate, they found the vehicle abandoned and about 23 people were seen running south across the border into Mexico. In plain view in the bed and cab of the truck were numerous bundles of marijuana, determined to have a street value of \$1,043,760. Combined with several other seizures — including 262 pounds of marijuana in a vehicle on U.S. 54, 242 pounds hidden in an arroyo in Hachita, N.M., and 307 pounds in a vehicle on Texas Highway 20 — the total of four seizures was 2,115 pounds of marijuana with a value of about \$1.7 million.

### Tragic pilgrimage

Four people were struck in two separate incidents as people walked along San Elizario Road late at night Friday, Aug. 10 in a traditional pilgrimage to San Lorenzo Church in Clint. Maria Teresa Urquidi, 60, who is reported to have made the pilgrimage yearly for more than 60 years, was walking with two young relatives when they were struck from behind by a 73-year-old man who was placed under arrest for failure to stop and render aid. Another woman, 61-year-old Emma Rivera was struck by an unidentified driver as she also walked on San Elizario Road about 2:30 a.m. All were hospitalized at Thomason, police said. The festival, which draws thousands each August to Clint, has held the event for 87 years.

### In other news

■ Calling all cars! The El Paso Speedway Park will host three races with open entry on Sept. 1, Sept. 29 and Oct. 21 for cars that are not racecars, meaning all drivers with a need for speed can participate without the high-priced equipment. No racecars, no cars with wheelbase under 108 inches, no four-wheel drives or modified vehicles may enter, however, vehicles must have a rollover bar and at least one downbar for protection. Entry is \$50 per race and if 40 or more cars roll in, pay out to the winner will be \$1,500. For more information and complete rules call 591-0966. Websites are [www.elpasospeedwaypark.com](http://www.elpasospeedwaypark.com) and [www.snmspeedway.com](http://www.snmspeedway.com).

■ Socorro ISD Community Services is pleased to announce that an English as a Second Language Class for the Eastside area will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays evenings. There will also be Spanish and English GED classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays evenings. Classes begin on Monday, August 27, 2001 with on site registration. The classes will be held at O'Shea Keleher School at 1800 Leroy

See BRIEFS, Page 4

*A taxpayer might be referred to as a government worker with no vacations, no sick leaves, and no holidays.*

— Quips and Quotes

## Clint school board named Region 19's School Board of the Year

By Debra Dominguez  
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — A Regional Judging Panel recently selected the Clint Independent School District's Board of Trustees as Region 19's "Outstanding School Board of the Year."

The judging panel, comprised of five super-

intendents, including an executive committee member of the Texas Association of School Administrators, also nominated the Clint ISD School Board to the TASA for the state's "Outstanding School Board Award."

Region 19's Executive Director James R. Vasquez congratulated Clint ISD Superintendent Sylvester Perez and the board of trustees stating he was proud because "an outstanding board reflects ability to build the 'Team of

Eight' concept, wherein, the board of trustees and the superintendent work together in a manner that ensures good management and student success."

Perez praised Clint ISD board members, including President James R. Pendell, Vice-President Mary Macias, Secretary Robert Lara, Fred Martinez, John Nelson, Paul T. James, Alfred Gonzalez and Bobby Caraway by saying they exemplify the "true meaning of service."

The superintendent said the board of trustees has one commonality — they make student-centered decisions.

He said their leadership in developing a clear vision and goals, along with various policies have resulted in the district's first ever "Recognized" status by the Texas Education Agency.

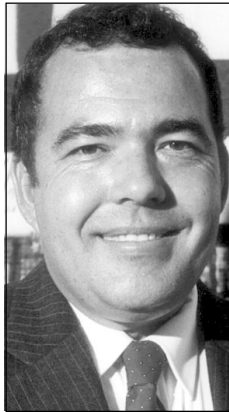
"The board believes in accountability, responsibility, dignity and integrity, while having sensitivity in dealing with your students, staff and constituencies on educational matters," Perez said. "This recognition is truly a well-deserved honor for our Clint ISD Board of Trustees."



Like most El Paso County school districts, Clint ISD is heavily involved in extensive construction projects, like this middle school/magnate facility near Horizon City, and more are on the drawing board. The district is proposing a \$67 million bond election for Oct. 6 and a series of community meetings will be held in August and September to educate the public. For more information see story, page 12.



Mary Macias



Jim Pendell

## County's Animal Shelter needs beefing up

By Marjorie F. Graham  
Courier Staff Writer

EL PASO COUNTY — El Paso County's Animal Shelter has been going to the dogs for a long time, managers say.

That is why this vulnerable border community needs, at a minimum, 12 more positions added to the staff of 35 already in place with the City/County Environmental and Health District.

Dr. Lea Hutchinson, deputy director, said at a recent budget hearing that doing so would advance the program "to where it was 30 years ago."

The Shelter's Advisory Committee, of which Patricia L. Palafox is chairman, endorses the gradual increase in full-time personnel along with authorization of \$31,200 for contract veterinary services.

The new places would include three kennel attendants, one kennel supervisor, one vet technician, four animal control officers, two data entry clerks and one telephone operator.

The Texas Department of Health (TDH) listed inadequate staffing among the major deficiencies found during its November, 2000, inspection of the agency's facility. It noted that, over the past decade, "staffing levels, rather than increasing to keep pace with population growth, have instead declined 17 percent from 49 positions in 1989 to 35 in the current fiscal year. At present, the agency is operating at less than 50 percent of the staffing level recommended by the National Animal Control Association, given the area and population of the county, and the number of animals impounded daily."

Dr. Gail Patrick, chief of veterinary services for Animal Regulation and Disease Control,

said the situation is such that the community cannot be protected effectively against a rabies outbreak or other animal-borne threats to public health.

"Nor can such a program meet even minimal state requirements regarding employee health and safety and handling/housing of impounded animals, as evidenced by the recent TDH inspection," Mrs. Palafox added. "We are dismayed that the situation has been allowed to continue for as long as it has."

Because the pound, at 211 Shelter Drive in El Paso, falls so short of state standards on several counts, it risks losing its Texas certification. It already has failed two inspections.

The Advisory Committee recommends a budget increase for AR&DC to \$1,552,429 for FY 2002. The proposed figure is \$1,440,693.

The district's total budget, at \$17,285,378 now, would rise to \$18,902,042 next year.

In other County business Monday, Commissioners swept aside the suggestion that the City of El Paso should take over operation of Ascarate Park, but they agreed to meet with City Council members to hear ideas on how to improve it. Faced with the Lake's closing until November because of E-coli bacterial and cholera-causing contamination, they authorized immediate purchase of three air "raiders," each costing \$6,000 to \$8,000, to clean the water.

Two or three more raiders may be needed before the lake can be reopened for swimming, fishing and other activity at a total estimated cost of \$200,000.

Finally, a new court devoted entirely to drug prevention and counseling, in lieu of incarceration for probationers meeting specific guidelines, was approved.

## Lower Valley Water District seeking to fill two vacancies

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — The Lower Valley Water District is seeking to fill two vacancies on its board of directors following resignation of members who no longer live in the district.

Following repeated requests by the El Paso Interreligious Sponsoring Organization (EPISO), Joe Carrasco and Rogelio Lozoya were asked to resign since both now are reportedly residents of California.

EPISO, a community-rights activist group, has been heavily involved in water issues in the El Paso County. EPISO spokesmen contended non-residents should not represent the local community because they cannot keep adequately informed on area issues.

Other objections were that travel costs to bring the directors to El Paso County for meetings were unnecessary expenses.

The LVWD serves about 10,000 households in the Sparks, Socorro, San Elizario and Clint areas. The district has resisted recent calls for consolidation with El Paso's Public Service Board Water Utilities (PSB), from which it purchases water supplies. LVWD Board President, Rosa Vigil, has said that consolidation is unacceptable until the Lower Valley community is given elected representation on the PSB. Carrasco has also been a staunch opponent of consolidation without representation.

Persons interested in serving on the board are asked to notify the district via fax at (915) 791-4483 or by hand delivery to LVWD's administrative offices at 1557 F.M. Rd., Clint, TX 79836, no later than 12:00 noon, Aug. 24, 2001.





# One perspective

By Francis Shrum

## Up, up and away... It's time to pay attention

HORIZON CITY — Remember that story by H.G. Wells about the time machine? A fellow travels forward in time to find that mankind has become split into two sub-species. One species of predatory creatures live a morbid, dark existence underground but they have all the power. The second species lives an idealic, mindless existence in an beautiful artificial environment maintained by the underground group.

There's only one drawback for the second group — they are the primary food source for their "benefactors" and if one of them wanders off into the dark...

It's tax time again in El Paso County.

Are you paying attention? It is going to cost about \$20 more (about \$115 total) to live in Horizon City this coming year if you own a home valued at the average of \$50,000. If your house costs more, your tax bill will be higher.

In the Clint school district, your tax bill will go up by \$125 (\$855 total) if you own a home valued at the average of \$50,000.

County officials are patting themselves on the back because they aren't going to raise the tax rate this year — but they are still getting a bigger bite out of your pocket because every year the taxable value of your property goes up. East County Commissioner Miguel Teran said the county could have rolled back the tax rate but he said improvements are needed and "it's going to cost money."

The real taxing *coup de grace* this year is the situation with your friendly, local water provider.

If you look on your tax bill, you'll find them listed right along with your school district, the county, Thomason Hospital, etc. That means they spend

tax money, too, right?

Well, yes. But don't look for notice to the public this year from your beneficent water providers about how much of your money they will collect, nor how they will use it.

Because the legislature recently gave water providers their own section of law, their publication regulations are still hazy — therefore, because they are not *specifically* required to do so, most of them are not going to.

State Rep. Manny Najera, when consulted on the purpose of the legislation, said it was never intended to allow a taxing entity not to publish applicable tax information to the public.

A notable exception is the Homestead MUD in East Montana, whose directors said they will publish, regardless of the loopholes.

Horizon's El Paso County Water Authority and their management company, ECO Resources, already performed a smoke-and-mirrors act on millions of Horizon area tax dollars in late 1999 and early 2000.

By declaring a water "emergency," the EPCWA awarded bids for over \$6 million to ECO to build a water treatment plant and infrastructure without benefit of the public bidding process, because it was tied into a \$20 million "professional services" agreement with ECO.

The "emergency" somehow resolved itself without benefit of the new water system because ECO's promise of a R/O water plant by the fall of 2000 didn't materialize until almost a year later. EPCWA trustees, who are elected by the public, said at the time that committing taxpayers to paying off millions without benefit of public bidding or notice

See ATTENTION, Page 10



## Eye on D.C. By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

# Gas price controls are putting the squeeze on American farmers

Natural gas has rapidly become an indispensable ingredient of the American economy. We see it just about everywhere. It began as a

residential and commercial heating fuel, but is now used for everything from electric power generators to growing the food we eat. Put simply: gas is a source of energy that our nation cannot live without.

The California energy crisis has shed a new light on our nation's dependence on gas. People across our great country are discussing the energy crisis. We talk about it at our dinner tables, around our water coolers and at our local gas stations. Now more than ever, we are aware of the connection between natural gas and electricity.

According to the Energy Information Administration, many of our nation's new electric plant will be gas-fired. And between now and 2020, the amount of natural gas used in power generation will roughly triple. This raises an important question: Will there be enough gas to serve America's farmers?

It is important to remember how much our nation's farmers utilize natural gas. In addition to being used as a fuel to heat greenhouses and run food-processing machinery, natural gas is a major cost component in the manufacturing of most fertilizers. It is the only raw material used to produce nitrogen fertilizer, which accounts for as much as 90 percent of fertilizer's production cost. When natural gas is in short supply, fertilizer producers curtail production. This means bad news for our nation's farmers.

Some say the solution to high natural gas prices is for the federal government to step in and impose price controls. But the fact is that we tried that in the 1970s, with disastrous results. The price controls started out innocently enough as an attempt to protect consumers from exploitation by profiteering producers. In 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court told federal energy regulators that they must ensure that the price of gas sold in interstate commerce is "just and reasonable." That sounds good, but it leaves a lot of room for interpretation.

Federal regulators interpreted this to mean that they should establish cost-based prices for hundreds of different gas producers around the country. Producers could no longer charge prices that exceeded their historical costs. This meant that when the cost of production increased, producers would suffer a corresponding decrease in profits unless regulators increased the controlled price.

Since it cost more to find and extract new gas, regulators found themselves buried in more requests for price increases than they could handle. They then tried several other methods of setting prices for groups of producers, but regulated prices never rose high enough to provide adequate incentives for new supplies. Artificially low prices didn't just reduce the supply of natural gas. They also encouraged people to use more gas. As consumption expanded and reserves dwindled, shortages were the inevitable result.

Even though federal regulators eventually abandoned price controls on natural gas, the regulators are still supposed to insist that prices be "just and

reasonable." And as long as that's the case, the temptation to issue price controls will continue persist.

Today, as power generators and farmers worry about the high cost of natural gas, lawmakers must ensure that there will be enough gas for all that need it. That means setting policies that encourage more production and expand existing pipeline capacity. This is one reason why I recently voted for the Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) Act. This legislation will help build new natural gas pipelines. It's also going to repair and upgrade entire transmission grids and build news ones, in order to meet the energy demand we face.

America's energy problem did not happen overnight and it can't be fixed overnight. But by enacting the SAFE Act, Congress can put in place a balanced energy plan to increase production and promote conservation while protecting our environmental priorities. It's the only way to guarantee a secure, reliable energy supply to fuel the U.S. economy in the 21st century.

## True Texas Facts by Roger Moore

August 18, 1983 - Alicia, the most expensive hurricane in U.S. history hits Houston & Galveston.



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

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**Business Manager**  
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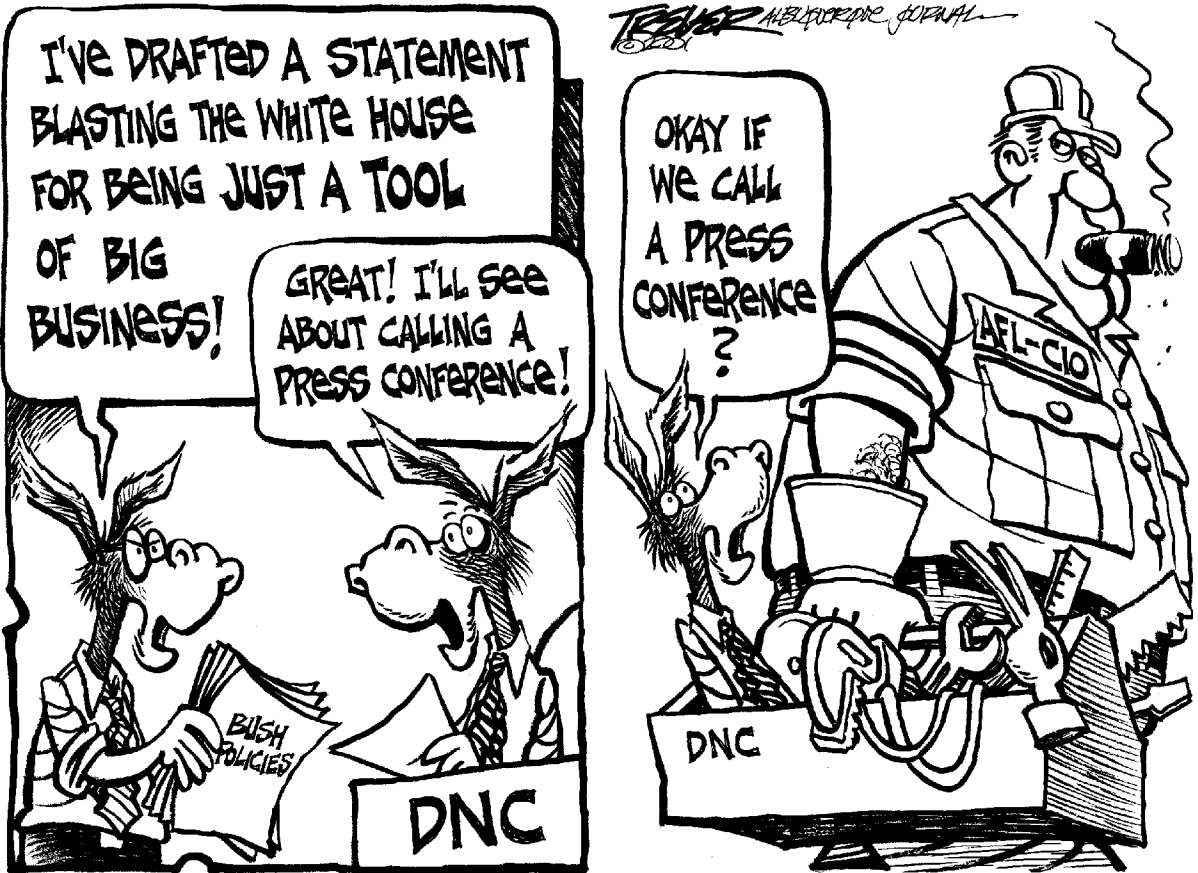
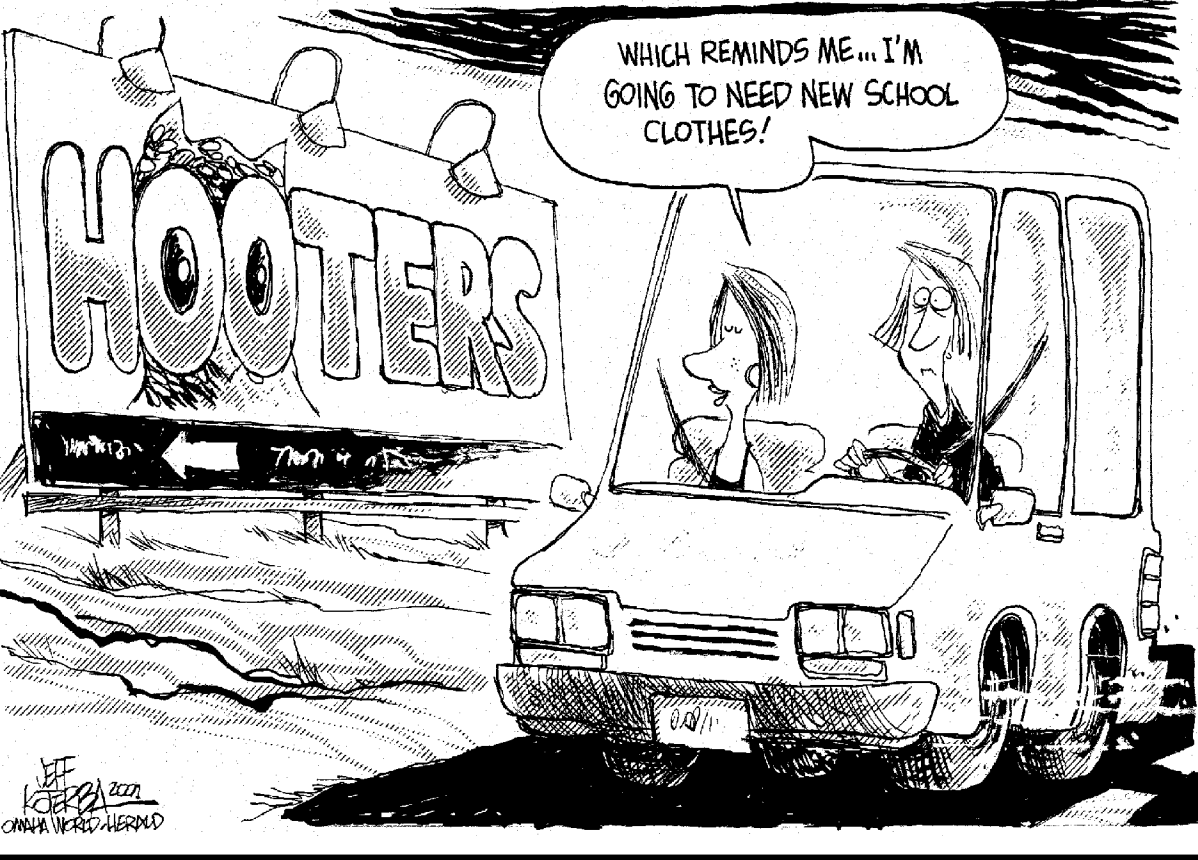
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Reyes Reports

By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

The importance of keeping Social Security

Thanks to Social Security, millions of Americans have avoided poverty and enjoyed dignity and security in their retirement years. Millions of seniors, people with disabilities, and surviving family members have roofs over their heads and food on their tables because Social Security is there for them.

As the Congressman for El Paso, I am obligated and responsible to make sure that we in Congress face in a straightforward, honest, and reasonable way the challenges of Social Security.

Last month, the administration released an interim report put out by the Social Security Commission that is not honest and straightforward. The President's commission published a misleading report. The Commission claims that Social Security is broken and that there are virtually no assets in the system. The Commission also claims that Social Security will go bankrupt by 2016 unless we undertake a radical overhaul. The Commission is trying to undermine public confidence in Social Security and scare people into thinking we have no choice but to cut the benefits. It is unfortunate that there are many who want to gut Social Security so that those over the age of 65 are left to fend for themselves without any assistance.

Members of the Administration suggest that all adults should save enough on a regular basis so that they can provide for their own retirement and for that matter, their health and medical needs. While this may be an easy task for some people, it is extremely difficult or impossible for others.

Also, the Commission's assertion that Social Security is going bust in 2016 is not true. The fact is that Social Security has enough reserve in the trust fund to last until at least 2038. These assets have the full faith and credit of the United States government behind them, and the Social Security system is fundamentally strong for many years to come.

The Commission also concluded that women and minorities, who are the biggest beneficiaries of Social Security, stand to gain the most from a privatization plan. In reality, they have the most to lose in a switch to privatization. Women spend an average of 14 years out of the workforce. Women also tend to live longer than men, so a woman would have to live longer with less money.

Social Security has faced financing imbalances before and the program has been adjusted to stay solvent. The existing financing imbalance is manageable. But to find the best solution for generations of Americans, we need a broad consideration of a variety of reform proposals, and not proposals and conclusions that are biased and lack true conclusions.

Social Security became law because millions of Americans believed in the idea and because Franklin Roosevelt had the vision to usher it through Congress. That generation had the courage to stand up for real reform that made a meaningful, positive difference in people's lives. Because of those actions, millions of Americans have been helped by this program. Together with my colleagues in Congress, I will fight to keep Social Security solvent. We will continue to fight for a fair and balanced approach to the Social Security program, and we will never stop fighting for a plan that strengthens Social Security for many generations to come.

Write stuff

**Dear Editor:**

The Velarde family would like to thank everyone for all the acts of kindness extended during the loss of our beloved mother and grandmother, Natalia Velarde.

Your cards, calls, food, flowers and your presence all meant so much to us and are greatly appreciated.

Thank you all and may God bless all of you.

**The Family of**  
**Natalia M. Velarde**  
**Fabens**



View from the porch

By Linda Mussehl

Blowin' in the wind

No matter how much I love summers — hot, dry and dusty as they are — they make me a tad twitchy, a little ringy.

The ceiling fans in the house go on in April and run continuously until the end of October. As the days heat up, other fans go on line as they are needed. Right now, six other fans are running full blast. Pardner and I each have our own personal fans, each aimed at our respective side of the bed.

Even my computer has a fan. (That really ticks me off. I expect my tools to have operating tolerances at least equal to my own. But no, my wussy computer sulks if it doesn't have it's own heater when the office gets below 50 degrees in the winter and a fan when the room heats up to over 90 degrees in the summer. If I can work here, I expect my computer to snap to and do the same.)

The constant low hum of the fans moving the warm air around — white noise really — lurks just below the level of consciousness, itching the mind. To hear the TV news, we crank up the volume. I accuse Pardner of mumbling; he suggests I'm going deaf.

And then there's the constant crackle of paper. A magazine's pages snap and rattle nonstop in the air stream until you put something on top of the magazine. Reading a newspaper needs skills last used on a city commuter bus, turning the pages with a quick snap, then folding them to expose only the article being read.

Smaller pieces of paper — opened mail and bills waiting to be paid — must be captured immediately lest they float on the prevailing breeze down to hide in dust-bunny land under the china cupboard.

Over the years I have collected objects that serve summer duty as paperweights.

Some actually are paperweights. I have an polished geode, a gift from a geologist friend years ago. Another is a souvenir from my oil patch years: a Lucite block with an hourglass (a thirty-second glass, really) holding a tablespoon of crude from Dammam #7, the first commercial oil well in Saudi Arabia.

A dual-purpose paperweight is an ag-industry trade show freebie from "the other white meat" folks. Just heavy enough to hold down a stack of paper, it's squishy when wadded in my fist and so light and rubbery it doesn't leave marks when slammed into a wall. My fat little pink paperweight is a great stress reliever.

Two favorite paperweights come from a paperless time. A great-great-uncle, plowing an Ohio cornfield almost a century ago, uncovered two rocks that look like Irish potatoes. Balanced and smooth, they are Native American hammer stones. I can imagine their maker's regret for losing such fine, well-balanced tools.

And then there are the occasional part-time paperweights. Most anything will do. A stapler or cell phone works just fine until you need to use it. Then the stack of papers spins away.

The same is true of cats. They do a great job holding down all the paper on my desk. But when a paperweight gets bored and wanders away, so do the papers.

Now where did I put today's "to do" list?

The answer, I guess, is blowing in the wind.

22nd Annual Great American



Duck Race

Thursday - Sunday, August 23-26

Luna County Courthouse Park

Deming, New Mexico

First Year to Race Live Ducks in the New Water Track!

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www.demingduckrace.com

Briefs

From Page 1

Bonse Rd. The hours of the class will be from 6:00 – 8:30 pm and there is no fee. Students may attend two days or all four days. This class is open to all community members 18 years and older. For further information please call 860-6350.

■ *The Four Directions* mural at Canutillo Elementary School, *Che Guevarra & Pancho Villa* murals at the Spaghetti Bowl, *Latin Attitude* and *ARTE Summer Camp* murals at the Canutillo Cultural Center, and *Project*

*Facelift* at Childress Elementary School are among the projects that will be officially dedicated during a special ceremony scheduled for 4 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 16, at Canutillo Elementary School. Canutillo Independent School District Special Programs Department will host the dedication ceremony to recognize students and their mentors for participating in the year-long mural project. The special ceremony will include a presentation of individual awards, a slide show of the murals, and a discussion of plans for future art projects. For more information, contact Carlos Callejo, mural project coordinator, at 877-7457, or Melissa Cuff, Student Activities facilitator, at 877-7458.

NOTICE OF EFFECTIVE TAX RATE

2001 Property Tax Rates in  
El Paso County Emergency Services District #1

This notice concerns 2001 property tax rates for the **El Paso County Emergency Services District #1**. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

<b>Last year's tax rate:</b>	
Last year's operating taxes _____	\$269,592
Last year's debt taxes _____	-0-
Last year's total taxes _____	269,592
Last year's tax base _____	309,299,924
Last year's total tax rate _____	.087162/\$100

<b>This year's effective tax rate:</b>	
Last year's adjusted taxes	
(after subtracting taxes on lost property) _____	\$269,543
+This year's adjusted tax base	
(after subtracting value of new property) _____	314,464,454
=This year's effective tax rate _____	.085714/\$100
x1.03 = maximum rate unless unit	
publishes notices and holds hearings _____	
	.088285/\$100

<b>This year's rollback tax rate:</b>	
Last year's adjusted operating taxes	
(after subtracting taxes on lost property	
and adjusting for transferred function,	
tax increment financing, and/or enhanced	
indigent health care expenditures) _____	\$269,543
+This year's adjusted tax base _____	314,464,454
=This year's effective operating rate _____	.085714/\$100
x1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate _____	.092571/\$100
+This year's debt rate _____	-0-/\$100
=This year's rollback rate _____	.092571/\$100

**Statement of Increase/Decrease**  
If the **El Paso County Emergency Services District #1** adopts a 2001 tax rate equal to the effective rate of **.085714** per \$100 of value, taxes would **increase** compared to 2000 taxes by **\$19,810**.

SCHEDULE A: Unencumbered Fund Balances	
The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.	
Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$337,264
Debt Service (I&S)	-0-
Unencumbered Amount to be Used to Satisfy Fiscal 2001/2002 Debt Service	-0-

SCHEDULE B: 2001 Debt Service				
The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).				
Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
NONE	\$-0-	\$-0-	\$-0-	\$-0-
Total required for 2001 debt service _____				
-Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A _____				-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from other resources _____				-0-
-Excess collections last year _____				-0-
=Total to be paid from taxes in 2001 _____				-0-
+Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2001 _____				-0-
=Total Debt Levy _____				-0-

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rate calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at 500 E. Overland Avenue Suite 101, El Paso, Texas 79901.  
**Name of person preparing this notice:** Victor A. Flores  
**Title:** County Tax Assessor-Collector  
**Date prepared:** August 6, 2001

Bonilla, South Texans raise water issue with Mexican Prez Fox

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Representative Henry Bonilla (R-TX) has again raised the issue of Mexico's 1.4 million acre-feet water debt to the United States. In a letter addressed to Mexican President Vicente Fox, Bonilla joined Reps. Solomon P. Ortiz (D-TX) and Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX) in expressing his desire for a resolution.

"We are writing to again bring to your attention an issue of great importance to both our countries and our border region," the letter said. "While we are more confident than ever of the U.S./Mexico border region's great potential, we must respectfully request your assistance in finding a resolution to Mexico's water deficiency."

"We are continuing to work with our community leaders in our drought-stricken districts and with our colleagues in the U.S. Congress to find ways to conserve and deal with the continuing lack of water, but this is not enough," the letter continued. "We have many serious issues to deal with along the border that we cannot even begin to address if water reserves are not available in the

Falcon and Amistad dams. We hope you will renew your efforts to find a resolution for this matter."

The Mexican water debt began in 1992 when drought struck the Rio Grande. Since the drought, Mexico has accumulated 1.4 million acre-feet of water debt. United States and Mexican officials announced in March that Mexico would start repaying the water, but Mexico failed to meet the July 31, 2001 deadline.

"Our farmers and ranchers are in dire straits. This water is not a luxury — it's a necessity," said Bonilla. "We should not be fighting for our water. This situation needs to be settled and it needs to happen soon."

Reps. Bonilla, Ortiz and Hinojosa also addressed a letter to President George W. Bush, reiterating their desire for a resolution. "As we are sure you are aware, Mexico has once again failed to comply with the requirements of the 1944 treaty and the February 2001 repayment agreement you reached with President Vicente Fox," the letter said. "While the U.S. has met its obligations...Mexico has for years

failed to uphold their end of the agreement. It is time for this issue to be resolved."

Reps. Bonilla and Ortiz are co-chairs of the House Border Caucus. Bonilla introduced a resolution last year calling on the President to "utilize the full powers of his office" to get Mexico to comply with the terms of a 1994 water treaty and repay more than one million acre-feet of water which Mexico has impounded since 1992.



"Well! Company loyalty, to say nothing of decorum, isn't what it used to be!"

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS  
BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The **Canutillo Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Monday, August 27, 2001 in the Canutillo High School Cafeteria, 7311 Bosque Rd., Canutillo, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates					
	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
<b>Last Year's Rate</b>	\$ 1.429355	\$ 0.271361*	\$ 1.700716	\$1,632	\$4,453
<b>Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance &amp; Operations Revenue &amp; Pay Debt Service</b>	\$ 1.306268	\$ 0.240602*	\$ 1.546870	\$1,570	\$4,589
<b>Proposed Rate</b>	\$ 1.366268	\$ 0.240602*	\$ 1.606870	\$1,643	\$4,717
*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.					

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence		
	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 53,308	\$54,284
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 38,071	\$38,998
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.700716	\$ 1.606870
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 647.47	\$ 626.64
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (20.83)
<b>Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.</b>		

**Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.606870. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.606870.**

Fund Balances	
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:	
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,080,771
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 370,741
**The Interest & Sinking Fund includes .200602 for bonded indebtedness and .040000 for maintenance notes.	



View from here

By Bill Hammond

Government regulations are a parent trap

In its attempt to extend fairness to the less fortunate, convenience for the disabled and safety for those who can't follow instructions, the federal government continues to parent the people of this country with excessive, costly regulations to the tune of \$18.7 billion.

The reason?

It's good for you.

From low-flow toilet legislation designed to conserve water to ordinances for businesses to install a bicycle rack that no one uses, government seems to relish the practice of imposing the ridiculous and costly. Is all of this in the name of balance, equity and conservation — or just more unnecessary parenting?

Congress often gives great leeway to federal entities to make rules that are binding on the companies that fall within their jurisdiction. This chaotic approach allows government agencies, comprised of faceless and unaccountable bureaucrats, to impose strict regulations that do little but take money out of our paychecks.

Congress, a great source of leaks, went into the plumbing business by requiring that toilets installed after 1994 must function with much less water per flush — 1.6 gallons. The bad news is that it now takes two or three flushes and *more water* to get the job done.

(Former President Bill) Clinton loved the toilet mandates so much, he extended regulations to cover washing machines as a part of his midnight regulation madness. The 37,504-work regulation set "standards" on the amount of electricity and water that can be used by home washing machines — standards that only front-loading washing machines meet. This mandate will go into effect in the near future unless President Bush rescinds it. Conservatively, a front-load washer can cost from \$200 to double the amount of a top loading washer. It is also estimated that you would have to do eight loads of laundry a week to realize any savings in electricity and water.

Closer to home, and not to be outdone by the feds, Austin's city government mandates that businesses erect bicycle racks to the tune of \$500-plus each. The monuments to cyclists built at TABCC's offices only serve as an occasional bookshelf as we pack our cars to go home.

If the implementation of regulations doesn't break you, the enforcement of regulations could. By conservative estimates, it takes over 100 days of the average American's salary to pay for the cost of government.

Individually, these examples don't seem so drastically costly, but consider this: the federal government alone has 134,723 pages of regulations, which takes over 130,000 employees to implement and enforce.


Is this really necessary?

Ronald Reagan didn't think so

when he established the Grace Commission in 1981 to come up with cost-cutting ideas for government. Because of his efforts the number of regulations actually reduced drastically. But, by the time Carter left office, he added an additional 20,000 pages to the books paid for by you and me.

Excessive regulations will stunt the growth of this country if not stopped. But past experience has taught us that government, just like the five year-old who's hand gets caught in the cookie jar, can't help itself. It's time for the taxpayers to take over the parenting.

Call your legislator and let them know that excessive regulations deter economic growth in your community.



Giving Opportunities

YOUR Gift

IS A WAY TO CONQUER LUNG DISEASE

Find out how you can help the 2.2 million Texans who suffer from lung disease.

1-800-LUNG-USA

www.texaslung.org

NOTICE OF EFFECTIVE TAX RATE

2001 Property Tax Rates in the Town of Clint

This notice concerns 2001 property tax rates for the **Town of Clint**. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

<b>Last year's tax rate:</b>	
Last year's operating taxes	\$97,915
Last year's debt taxes	-0-
Last year's total taxes	97,915
Last year's tax base	28,583,898
Last year's total tax rate	.342553/\$100

<b>This year's effective tax rate:</b>	
Last year's adjusted taxes	
(after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$97,915
+This year's adjusted tax base	
(after subtracting value of new property)	28,715,365
=This year's effective tax rate	.340984/\$100
x1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings	.351213/\$100

<b>This year's rollback tax rate:</b>	
Last year's adjusted operating taxes	
(after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function, tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$97,915
+This year's adjusted tax base	28,715,365
=This year's effective operating rate	.340984/\$100
x1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	.368262/\$100
+This year's debt rate	-0-/\$100
=This year's rollback rate	.368262/\$100

**Statement of Increase/Decrease**

If the **Town of Clint** adopts a 2001 tax rate equal to the effective rate of **.340984** per \$100 of value, taxes would **increase** compared to 2000 taxes by **\$2,684**.

<b>SCHEDULE A: Unencumbered Fund Balances</b>	
The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.	
<b>Type of Property Tax Fund</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$-0-
Debt Service (I&S)	-0-
Unencumbered Amount to be Used to Satisfy Fiscal 2001/2002 Debt Service	-0-

<b>SCHEDULE B: 2001 Debt Service</b>				
The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).				
Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
NONE	\$-0-	\$-0-	\$-0-	\$-0-
Total required for 2001 debt service				
-Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A				\$-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from other resources				-0-
-Excess collections last year				-0-
=Total to be paid from taxes in 2001				-0-
+Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2001				-0-
=Total Debt Levy				-0-

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

**Name of person preparing this notice:** Victor A. Flores

**Title:** County Tax Assessor-Collector

**Date prepared:** August 6, 2001

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The **Clint Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 29, 2001 in the library of Carroll T. Welch Middle School, 14510 McMahon Dr., Horizon City, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

<b>Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates</b>					
	<b>Maintenance &amp; Operations</b>	<b>Interest &amp; Sinking Fund*</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Local Revenue Per Student</b>	<b>State Revenue Per Student</b>
<b>Last Year's Rate</b>	\$ 1.451539	\$ 0.000000*	\$ 1.451539	\$ 776	\$ 4,960
<b>Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance &amp; Operations Revenue &amp; Pay Debt Service</b>	\$ 1.484355	\$ 0.214800*	\$ 1.699155	\$ 899	\$ 5,038
<b>Proposed Rate</b>	\$ 1.500000	\$ 0.214800*	\$ 1.714800	\$ 916	\$ 5,038
*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.					

<b>Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence</b>		
	<b>Last Year</b>	<b>This Year</b>
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 45,549	\$47,314
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 30,378	\$32,148
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.451539	\$ 1.714800
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 440.95	\$ 551.27
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 110.32

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

**Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.759155. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.759155.**

<b>Fund Balances</b>	
The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:	
Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 3,081,759
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 606,488

# Third Annual Farm Workers Fair provides bridge between migrant families and services

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Although education is a first priority for the majority of youths residing in the Clint Independent School District, there are some who would not be able to finish the school year if it weren't for the district's Migrant Education Program.

The district's federally funded program is designed to support high-quality and comprehensive educational programs for migratory children to help reduce the educational disruptions and other problems that result from repeated moves.

Along with ensuring that migratory children benefit from state and local systemic reforms, the migrant program also is designed to help migratory children overcome cultural and language barriers, social isolation, various health-related problems, and other factors that inhibit the ability of such children to do well in school.

To address these issues, the Clint school district, along with the Fabens and Socorro school districts, will be hosting a Third Annual Farm Workers Fair from 9 a.m. to noon Aug. 25 at C.T. Welch Middle School, 14510 McMahon in Horizon City.

The event will offer free information on health services, education, drug abuse and other helpful services. There also will be free blood pres-

sure and diabetes screenings, fingerprinting for children by the El Paso Sheriff's Department, door prizes and opportunities to sign up children for health insurance under the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

"The Clint ISD Migrant Education Program benefits Migrant families by providing services and opportunities that will assist them in reaching their maximum potential," Patricia Avila, Clint ISD's director of special programs, said.

For more information call Debra Dominguez with Clint Public Relations at (915) 241-3848 or Ana M. Telles at (915) 859-6403.

## Take these steps to hold down on mosquitoes

EL PASO COUNTY — This virus, that virus, and all carried by a pesky little critter called a mosquito. But there are a few things you can do to hold down on the population around your home and protect you and your family.

- Empty or change standing water in your yard such as birdbaths, buckets, tires, kiddie pools or toys.
- Keep swimming pools treated and circulating. Unclog rain gutters.
- Use bug repellents when outdoors and wear head nets, long sleeves and pants if you go into high mosquito population areas.
- Make sure your windows are bug-proof.
- Replace outdoor lighting with yellow bug repelling bulbs.
- Get more information at 594-11568 or log on at [www.mosquito.org](http://www.mosquito.org).

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The **Anthony Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 6:30 p.m., Monday, August 27, 2001 in the Middle School Library, Anthony, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates					
	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.457385	\$ 0.173724*	\$ 1.631109	\$2,169	\$4,876
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.432514	\$ 0.552797*	\$ 1.985311	\$3,000	\$5,502
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.290800	\$ 0.552797*	\$ 1.843597	\$2,786	\$5,502
*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.					

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence		
	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 52,215	\$52,889
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 37,052	\$37,703
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.631109	\$ 1.843597
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 604.35	\$ 695.09
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 90.74
Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.		

**Notice of Rollback Rate:** The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 2.045311. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 2.045311.

### Fund Balances

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

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,500,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ -0-

## You, too, can stomp grapes like Lucy at La Vina wine festival

By Michelle J. Brown  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — In celebration of the first harvest of its new vineyard, La Vina Winery in La Union, New Mexico will host its First Annual La Vina Grape Stomp this weekend, Aug. 18 and 19, from 2 to 8 p.m. About 20 minutes from El Paso, the winery is well known for its two jazz festival wine tastings held every spring and fall.

Several thousand anticipated festival-goers will have the chance to taste some of the 13 wine types La Vina produces as well to actually stomp grapes in barrels much the way Lucille Ball's character Lucy Ricardo did in one of the most famous episodes of "I Love Lucy" ever aired.

"Everyone knows Lucy's Italian vineyard grape stomping exploits," said La Vina owner, Denise Stark. "This festival is our way of giving people a chance to do it themselves and see what it was like to produce wine before technological advances took over."

Tickets are \$10, which include up to six tastes or a glass of wine and a souvenir glass. Stomping contests with prizes for the most juice produced in two minutes will be held, for an additional charge, with winners receiving bottles of wine. Photos of attendees and their own stomping adventures will also be available for purchase. Live music and multicultural food booths round out the weekend's entertainment.

Located at 4201 Highway 28, one mile north from I-10's Vinton Exit, just 20 minutes from El Paso, La Vina covers 43 acres, with 25 devoted to grapes in the production of 13 award-winning varietal wines available only in New Mexico. Established in 1977, the current owners recently dedicated 10,000 sq. ft. to production for tours and tastings year round as well as two acres of yard with a stage and dance floor for festival celebrations.

For more information about the winery or the La Vina Grape Stomp, call Denise Stark (toll free from El Paso) at 505-882-7632 or the El Paso Convention and Visitors' Bureau at (915) 534-0692.

## Public Notice Fabens Independent School District Fabens, Texas

### EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

Fabens Independent School District provides educational services for the special needs students from the ages of three through twenty-two if their twenty-second birthday falls after September 1. Services are also available through the district for visually handicapped or hearing impaired children from birth to three years of age.

District programs for the special needs population include pre-vocational, vocational, academic, fundamental living skills and socialization skills.

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and Public Law 94-142, parents and adult students have the right to inspect the educational records of handicapped students. District policies FL, FL-E and FL-I provide for student record inspection, confidentiality, and complaint procedures. If parents have questions, they may call the campus principal.

### SERVICIOS EDUCATIVOS PARA ESTUDIANTES INCAPACITADOS

*El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens provee servicios educacionales para incapacitados desde la edad de tres años hasta la edad de veintidos, si su veintidoseno cumpleaños es después de Septiembre 1. También hay servicios disponibles mediante el distrito para incapacitados visualmente o con impedimentos del sentido del oído desde su nacimiento hasta los tres años de edad. Los programas del Distrito para incapacitados incluye educación pre-vocacional, vocacional, académica, destrezas fundamentales, para vivir y socializar.*

*En conformidad con los Derechos Educativos de la Familia y el Acto Privado de 1974 y la Ley Publica 94-142, padres y estudiantes adultos tienen el derecho de revizar los archivos educacionales de estudiantes incapacitados. Las Politicas del Distrito FL, FL-E, y FL-I proveen inspección de archivos de estudiantes, procedimientos de confidencialidad y quejas. Si los padres tienen prejunatas, ellos pueden llamar al director de la escuela.*

View from here

By Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff

# Booming growth and soaring health costs are driving our state budget

Traveling throughout Texas since the legislative session ended, I have found folks from every end of our state who only have one comment to make on the work their legislators did in Austin this year. Time and time again, I've heard: "\$114 billion is a lot of money."

They get no argument from me. \$114 billion is a lot of money. But I wouldn't be doing our state any service if I didn't tell Texans why our state budget has grown and still struggles to keep pace with the demands placed on it.

Historically, Texans have been quick to brag that we live in a big state. And they're right. Covering well over a quarter million square miles, Texas is 68 percent larger than California, with a boundary line that could rope in all of the states in New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois combined. As they say: It ain't braggin' if it's true.

But there is another part to that story that is equally true. With more than 20 million people in Texas by the last census count, our population has soared 25 percent in just the last 10 years — surpassing New York to become the second largest state in the

nation. And year after year, Texas lawmakers have faced the challenge those growing demands have placed on our budget by rejecting tax increases and stretching our state dollars further and further to try to make ends meet.

Although Texas now ranks No. 2 in population and still outstretches every other state in the continental U.S. when it comes to per capita state spending, we topple the charts to No. 49. — second only to Mississippi in the small amount we invest in the men, women and children who live here.

While many Texans can find good reason to put our public school system — which has been adding 70,000 new students a year — at the top of their lists of the largest state expenses, the single item that is driving our state budget harder, higher and faster than any other is the soaring cost of health care. In fact, the only population in Texas that is growing at a quicker pace, percentage-wise, than our schoolchildren, is the

number of people in our nursing homes. And four out of five of them depend on some kind of public assistance.



Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff

Many Texans are surprised to learn how deeply rooted health care costs are in the state budget. While the Medicaid program for poor children and elderly citizens who cannot take care of themselves is a huge health cost for the state, recent estimates for the state employee health plan have shown increases ranging anywhere from 20 to 40 percent for each two-year budget period. The state health insurance plan for our retired teachers alone required an additional \$452 million last session — just to stay solvent for the next two fiscal years.

Texas' mental health and mental retardation facilities also have an enormous medical cost attached to them. Many of their clients face serious physical problems, in addition to challenging mental condition. And very few of them have adequate resources to take care of themselves.

Texas' foster children program is another costly investment. Many foster children are foster children simply because they have such serious health conditions that their parents cannot take care of them. Others have been abused or neglected to such an extreme that they require serious medical attention to restore their lives.

Texas also runs one of the largest hospital systems in the world within the confines of our prison system. There are approximately 150,000 state inmates behind bars in Texas on any given day. Some of them have AIDS, or are HIV positive. It should come as no surprise that a growing number of aging inmates are housed in geriatric units — or should be. After all, Texas is tough on crime and the number of state prisoners now serving life sentences means we have more and more inmates who need the kind of major medical care required by any elderly population anywhere.

Pharmaceuticals are a health cost drive in the state budget that cannot be ignored — and it is an area that clearly illustrates the dilemma lawmakers have faced in setting spending priorities. In the last two years alone, state prescription drug costs have skyrocketed 56 percent, while general revenue spending for the next biennium increased only 8.8 percent — or 4.4 percent a year.

There is little question that lawmakers are going to have to give serious, thoughtful and credible consideration to all of the tough issues Texas will face in the future. And there is even less doubt that finding a way to corral the rising cost of health care in the state budget should be at the top of that list.

## Phamiliar phrases

### "it came down to the wire"

A situation that is resolved only in the last few seconds. In a close foot race, a winner isn't known until one contestant is marked as first by breaking through the tape or string - the "wire" - as they cross the finish line.

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## Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technology Programs at Fabens ISD

- 1) Fabens Independent School District offers career and technology education programs in Home Economics, Business Education, Drafting, Graphic Arts, and Auto Technology. Admission to these programs is based on courses offered, age appropriateness, class space available, and individual graduation plans.
- 2) It is the policy of Fabens Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- 3) It is the policy of Fabens Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or age in its employment practices as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- 4) Fabens Independent School District will take steps to ensure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.
- 5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact: Eldefonso "Poncho" Garcia, Assistant Superintendent, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, Texas 79838, (915) 764-2025.

## Notificacion Publica de no Discriminar en los Programas de Carrera y Tecnologia de Fabens ISD

- 1) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens ofrece programas de carrera y tecnología en Economía Domestica, Educación de Negocios, y Mecánica. La admisión a estos programas se basa en registrado en la escuela de Fabens y completar los requisitos necesarios.
- 2) Es norma de El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, o impedimento, en sus programas, servicios, o actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, que fue enmendada, Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendada.
- 3) Es norma de El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens no discriminar por motivos raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento o edad en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda, Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975, según enmienda, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.
- 4) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Fabens tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua inglés no sea obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas vocacionales y educativos.
- 5) Para más información sobre sus derechos y procedimiento para quejas, comuníquese con el Coordinador del Título IX: Eldefonso "Poncho" Garcia, Asistente Superintendente, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, Texas 79838, (915) 764-2025.

## Fabens Independent School District PUBLIC NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Fabens Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or any person who has a disability in the admission or access to programs, delivery of services or employment.

The Fabens Independent School District is fully committed to meeting its responsibilities as specified by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; prohibiting sex discrimination, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Assistant Superintendent Charles Hopps, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, TX 79838. Phone: (915) 764-2025. Fax: (915) 764-3115.

## NOTIFICACION PUBLICA

Es la norma de conducta de el distrito escolar de Fabens prohibir la discriminación a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o deshabilidad en la admisión o el acceso a programas, entrega de servicios o empleo.

El distrito escolar de Fabens esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado, el Título IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, como enmendado, que prohíbe la discriminación sexual, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendado, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975 como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidades.

Para información tocanta a sus derechos comuníquese con Asistente Superintendente Charles Hopps, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, TX 79838. Phone: (915) 764-2025. Fax: (915) 764-3115.



# Hottest prediction for fall — who will take the World Series?

By Steve Escajeda  
*Special to the Courier*

Well, we are three-fourths of the way through the Major League Baseball season and I believe that I can tell with some confidence which team will win the World Series.  
Too early, you say? Maybe so, but barring any unforeseen injuries, one team is peaking at just the right time and has a swagger about them not seen by any other team.  
Who will win it all? Let’s examine all the contenders.  
The New York Yankees have won four of the last five championships

and when this season is over, they will have won four of the last six. — because they don’t have the pitching they’ve enjoyed in the past.  
The Boston Red Sox aren’t guaranteed a healthy Pedro Martinez down the home stretch of the season, and, of course, they have that old “Yankee curse” thing to contend with.  
The Minnesota Twins and the Cleveland Indians keep passing the American League Central lead to one another like a hot potato and neither team wants it.  
The Seattle Mariners have been the best team in baseball since the season began and show no signs of slow-

ing. But this is the regular season, and can you imagine the pressure a young team has on their shoulders to live up to the pace they set all season.  
In the National League the Atlanta Braves no longer have that third starter to back Greg Maddux and Tom Glavin. The Braves really miss the likes of a Fred McGriff or a “Big Cat” Galarraga.  
The Philadelphia Phillies got off to a great start this season but reality is beginning to set in at the worst time of the year.  
The Chicago Cubs are winning with a pitching staff that is performing way over their heads and, in the end, the Cubs will always be the

Cubs.  
The Houston Astros probably have the best hitting team in baseball but one of the youngest pitching staffs. If they can hold on to Moises Alou, the Astros could be a year away.  
The Arizona Diamondbacks have the best 1-2 pitching punch in the majors in Randy Johnson and Curt Schilling and the best all-around hitter in Luis Gonzalez. But they lack pitching depth and big bats.  
The Los Angeles Dodgers have done well to stay in the National League West race for as long as they have but look for them to fall off the pace during the last month of the season.  
The San Francisco Giants will be watching Barry Bonds’ home run chase more than the job at hand, which is winning baseball games. The Giants have plenty of offense but are running thin in quality arms.  
So who will win the World Series? The hottest team in baseball team over the last two months. Yes, they are even hotter than the Seattle Mariners.  
The Oakland A’s started the season horribly with an 8-18 record in last place in the American League West. But they’ve turned things around and as of last Sunday had won 30 of their last 39 games.  
The A’s are getting great pitching and scoring runs in bunches. I knew the A’s were going to be a contender this season I couldn’t understand the slow start.  
With the new bash brothers, Jeremy and Jason Giambi, Johnny Damon and Miguel Tejada, the A’s

are pushing runs across the plate. And with a pitching staff that includes Tim Hudson (14-6) and Mark Mulder (14-6) and an emerging Barry Zito (8-7) and 144 strike outs in 149 innings. The A’s are indeed the team to beat.  
The A’s have something else though, they have a quiet confidence about them. They seem to know what it takes to win the close games (when their games are close).  
Don’t believe me — see you in October.

## Eagle eyes

What the heck has been going on with Philadelphia football over the last few years? I don’t mean the football team, I mean the football cheerleaders.  
Seems two of the former Eagles cheerleaders have filed suit against 23 other NFL teams that supposedly got to see a little more of the cheerleaders than they were supposed to.  
The two claim that visiting teams drilled holes through the wall to the cheerleaders’ locker room, which is adjacent to the visiting team’s locker room in Veterans Stadium.  
They say they are seeking damages of \$75,000 from each team but ironically, they aren’t seeking a penny from the organization that allowed this peep show to go on...the Philadelphia Eagles.  
Some cheerleaders claim that they have been putting tape over the holes for years so that tells me the Eagles knew about the behavior.  
The cheerleaders should go after the organization that allowed this to happen...and that’s the naked truth.

## Anthony Independent School District SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

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

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

Services are provided to identified auditorial and visually impaired children who reside within the district from birth through age twenty-one.

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

If you would like more information or know of a child with disabilities who is not receiving educational services, please contact: Pat Caballero, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821, (915) 886-6500.

## El Distrito Escolar de Anthony SERVICIOS DE EDUCACION ESPECIAL

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

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

*Se provee servicios a niños identificados como desabilitados audible y visualmente que viven dentro del distrito desde nacimiento hasta la edad de 21 años.*

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

*Si usted desea mas información o sabe de un niño/niña desabilitado que vive en el distrito escolar de Anthony que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con: Pat Caballero, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821, (915) 886-6500.*

WTCC: 08/16/01

## Village of Vinton PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 7:00 p.m. during the Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, August 21, 2001 at Vinton Village Hall, 436 Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed ordinance(s):

1) An Ordinance amending the Vinton Subdivision Ordinance affecting Subdivision Improvement Design Standards and Water Distribution Standards and Specifications for the Village of Vinton, Texas.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Village Clerk of the Village of Vinton. Ordinances are too extensive to print. Ordinances are always available for viewing or copying upon request from the Clerk at the above address.

IRMA RODRIGUEZ  
Village Clerk

WTCC: 08/16/01

## Classified Ads

**BARGAINS**  
  
1997 three-piece sectional sofa, Berkliner with two recliners and one sleeper built in, good condition, blue. Originally cost \$1,900, sell for \$500. Call 852-3944.  
8/16

**HELP WANTED**  
  
Lower Valley Water District (LVWD) is now accepting letters of interest for a vacant seat on the Board of Directors. Interested parties please submit letter to our administrative office via fax (915) 791-4483 or hand delivery to 1557 F.M. Rd., Clint, TX 79836, no later than 12:00 noon, August 24, 2001.  
WTCC-8/16/01

**ATTENTION!**  
Experienced milkers Pecos, Texas area 915-447-3143  
CONTACT: Marcos Natividad at Trans-Pecos Dairy, Inc.  
SALARY: Commensurate with experience.

**ATENCION!**  
Ordenadores con experiencia  
Pecos, Texas area 915-447-3143  
Albar con Marcos Natividad, Trans-Pecos Dairy, Inc.  
Salario depende de la experiencia  
WTCC-8/16

Hair Slingers in Horizon City is seeking experienced cosmetologist. Apply in person after 2 p.m. at 13899 Horizon Blvd., Ste. 4, Horizon City.

**OFFICE SPACE**  
  
Office for lease in Horizon City. Corner of Darrington and Horizon Blvd. \$350/month. Call Horizon Properties, 852-3331.

**SELF-HELP OPPORTUNITIES**  
  
Alcoholics Anonymous Group Paso Del Norte meets at 8501 Kingsway in Westway, Monday-Saturday, 8 p.m. Call 886-4948 for information.

**alcohol? Hay una solución. Visitemos. Alcohólicos Anónimos, Grupo 8 de Enero, 1608 McMahon, Horizon City, sesiones lunes y viernes a 8 de la tarde. Informacion: 859-0484.**  
  
Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous Group 8 de Enero meets at 1608 McMahon in Horizon City on Mondays and Fridays at 8 p.m. Call 859-0484 for information.  
*Tiene problemas con el*

**SERVICES**  
  
“Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring”  
**JEFF GLASS REPAIR**  
Windshield Repair Specialists  
By appt. at your home  
  
or office:  
R.V. Dick Harshberger  
915-852-9082  
  
**BERT’S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR**  
Domestic and Foreign  
852-3523  
1558 Oxbow, Horizon City  
  
**HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079**  
• Heating/cooling  
• Electric rooter service  
  
for sewers and drains  
• Appliance installation  
• Many other plumbing services  
• 24-hour service  
Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.  
  
**AL’S PLACE**  
Warehouse Space  
900 sq ft-\$200  
Yard Storage \$20 and Up  
Horizon Industrial Park, 418 Kenazo, Horizon City  
852-3949



# Past of colorful Cordova Island explored by El Paso historian

EL PASO COUNTY — El Paso historian Fred Morales will discuss the history of El Paso and Juarez’ shared Cordova Island in a special event at Chamizal National Memorial on Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Cordova Island and the unsettled movement of the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo around the area were at the heart of the final resolution of a 100-year border dispute with Mexico over the area. Cordova Island was split in half with the United States receiving the northern portion of about 193 acres and Mexico 193 acres of the southern segment.

The transfer of ownership was not an easy one. Established communities were involved. More than 5,000 individuals, the businesses which served them, schools and even a rail-

road were moved. The history leading up to the settlement and the time which has elapsed since will all be discussed.

Morales will address the early history of the Island, including the great flood of 1897 and early American industries of the island.

Prohibition and farming also played important roles in the history of this El Paso/Juarez island.

Morales is historian and curator of the El Paso/Juarez Historical Museum at 6400 Airport Road, Ste. T. The museum was established in 1993 to promote the history and culture of El Paso and Juarez. Since the establishment of the museum, he has worked closely with the El Paso Library system to design and place over 80 historical exhibitions in the libraries. He has written several regional historical books including one on the Union Plaza District and one on the history of transportation. He was born in Chihuahuita “where the dispute started,” he says

The talk is open to the public without charge. Chamizal National Memorial, El Paso’s National Park, is located at 800 South San Marcial, between Bowie High School and the Cordova Bridge.

For additional information, call 532-7273.

## Home forfeited in connection with immigration trafficking case

EL PASO COUNTY — In the first known case of its kind, an El Paso resident has forfeited his property after being prosecuted on two counts of concealing and harboring illegal immigrants in an historic district in El Paso.

“We take the business of alien trafficking very seriously, and we will vigorously pursue those who violate immigration laws and exploit human misery for profit,” said El Paso Border Patrol Sector Chief Patrol Agent Luis Barker.

Recently expanded Federal statutes prohibit harboring or concealing illegal immigrants in the U.S., with penalties that can result in the loss of businesses, private homes, bank holdings, vehicles and other applicable assets if an individual is convicted.

El Paso resident Jesus Maria Rivera-Chavez was convicted in District Court of a federal offense relating to Title 8, U.S.C. 1324, which covers knowingly concealing, harboring and shielding from detection illegal immigrants. He was placed on probation for a term of three years and forfeited his property at 211 W. Rio Grande.

According to court records, Rivera-Chavez used his \$70,000 home as a stash for illegal immigrants.



The smallest bee is Trigona minima, a stingless bee only 1/12 inch long.

### Anthony Independent School District Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technology Programs

1) The Anthony Independent School District offers career and technology education programs in:

- Business Professions;
- Human Service Professions including culinary arts and cosmetology;
- Commercial Arts Professions
- Health Professions;
- Industrial Professions including air conditioning and refrigeration, electronics, plumbing and metal trades;
- Computer Professions including Macromedia certification, Microsoft Windows NT, microcomputer technician, and telecommunications and networking, and;
- Automotive Professions including diesel mechanics and automotive technology.

Admission to these programs is based on appropriate age, grade, aptitude and ability.

2) It is the policy of Anthony Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

3) It is the policy of Anthony Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or age in its employment practices as required by title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

4) Anthony Independent School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all career and technology programs.

5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator/Section 504 Coordinator: Mr. Robert Ortega, (915) 886-6500, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821.

### Anthony Independent School District Public Notice Of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the Anthony Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or any person who has a disability in the admission or access to programs, delivery of services or employment.

The Anthony Independent School District is fully committed to meeting its responsibilities as specified by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; prohibiting sex discrimination, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Mr. Robert Ortega, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821, (915) 886-6500.

### Notificacion Publica

*Es la norma de conducta de el distrito escolar de Anthony prohibir la discriminación a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o deshabilidad en la admisión o el acceso a programas, entrega de servicios o empleo.*

*El distrito escolar de Anthony esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado, el Título IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, como enmendado, que prohíbe la discriminación sexual, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendado, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975 como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidades.*

*Para información tocanta a sus derechos comuniquese con Mr. Robert Ortega, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821, (915) 886-6500.*

WTCC: 8/16/01

### Notificacion Publica de no Discriminar en los Programas de Carrera y Tecnoligia

1) *El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony ofrece programas de carrera y tecnología:*

- *Profesiones en negocios;*
- *Profesiones en servicios humanos incluyendo artes culinarias and cosmetolgia;*
- *Profesiones en arte comercial;*
- *Profesiones en al salud;*
- *Profesiones industriales incluyendo aire acondicionado y refrigeración, electrónica, plomeria y oficio en el metal;*
- *Profesiones de computación como certificacion de macromedia, Microsoft Windows NT, Técnico en micro-computación, telecomuncaciones, y red de radiodifusión, y;*
- *Profesiones automotrices incluyendo mecánica diesel y tecnología automotriz.*

*Para admisión a éstos programas se basa en edad apropiada, grado, aptitud y habilidad.*

2) *Es norma del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, ó impedimento, en sus programas, servicios, ó actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.*

3) *Es norma del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony no discriminar por motivos raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento ó edad en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975, según enmienda; y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.*

4) *El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua inglés no sea obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas carrera y tecnología.*

5) *Para más información sobre sus derechos ó procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese con el Coordinadora del Título IX/Coordinador de la Sección 504, Mr. Robert Ortega, (915) 886-6500, en 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821.*

WTCC: 08/16/01

# Attention

From Page 2

was perfectly acceptable.

An EPCWA spokesman said Tuesday morning that not publishing tax information this year for public notice was fine, too, and they “want to save the taxpayers the expense.”

## EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS 2001 GRANT APPLICATION PUBLIC NOTICE

The County of El Paso, Texas, is giving notice of the county’s intent to submit a grant application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs under the 2001 Housing Infrastructure Fund. The grant application will be submitted for \$400,000 to provide infrastructure improvements in support of an affordable housing subdivision in Horizon City.

Interested persons are invited to review the application Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. in Suite 313 of the County Courthouse Building at 500 E. San Antonio Ave., El Paso, Texas 79901. For more information, please contact the Community Development Division at (915) 543-3845.

WTCC: 08/16/01

## EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS 2000 GRANT APPLICATION PUBLIC NOTICE

The County of El Paso, Texas, is giving notice of the county’s intent to submit a grant application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs under the 2000 Colonia Economically Distressed Areas Program. The grant application will be submitted for \$190,692 to provide first-time residential water and sewer services in unincorporated areas eligible under the Economically Distressed Areas Program.

Interested persons are invited to review the application Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. in Suite 313 of the County Courthouse Building at 500 E. San Antonio Ave., El Paso, Texas 79901. For more information, please contact the Community Development Division at (915) 543-3845.

WTCC: 08/16/01

## Anthony Independent School District 2001-2002 Meal Policy

The Anthony Independent School District serves breakfast and lunch every school day. All children in the District will receive a reimbursable meal at no charge through the academic year of 2001-2002. All children will receive a free breakfast and a free lunch regardless of income. In the operation of the child feeding program no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, age or national origin.

## El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony Regla de Alimentos Año 2001-2002

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony ofrece desayuno y comida todos los días escolares. A todos los estudiantes del distrito se les servirán alimentos a ningún costo durante el año académico de 2001-2002. Todo estudiante recibirá almuerzo y comida gratis no tomando en cuenta ingresos. En el funcionamiento del programa de alimentación ningún niño ó estudiante será discriminando contra su raza, color, religión, sexo, incapacidad, edad o origen nacional.

WTCC: 8/16/01

It cost EPCWA \$338 last year to publish a detailed accounting in 10,000 copies of the *Courier* that were distributed all over El Paso County and in 22 states outside Texas. That’s not a budget breaker for EPCWA — nor for this publication. In light of the fact that so many water providers are now under management by private corporations, it seems even more imperative that the public should be informed of how they spend tax dollars. Considering

ECO’s windfall under the guise of “professional services” the sky seems to be limit where public funds can be spent without accountability. As the tax bill continues to go up, up and away, the respect for taxpayers and the trust to spend public money carefully seems to be going in the opposite direction. One local elected official once lamented that early Horizon councils listened too much to community input and kept the tax rate low. I thought elected

officials were *supposed* to do that. One look at your Horizon tax bill this year should verify that the “mistake” of keeping taxes low is one that won’t be made again anytime soon. In view of the predatory nature of our taxing entities toward the folks who are their “food source,” maybe we should change the term “community service” to “community-serves-us.” With such a voracious tax appetite in El Paso County, we’d best not let our kids wander out alone in the dark.

## King Super Crossword

SHARPEN YOUR WITS

ACROSS

1 Mineral suffix

4 Awaited

9 Two, in Tijuana

12 Out of line

17 Worthless

19 Pad

20 Journalist Tarbell

21 Hapsburg capital

22 Like a spy story

25 Actress Jennifer

26 Former Pentagon head

27 Big name in locks

28 Dweeb's cousin?

30 Competitor

31 Germ type

34 Made likely

37 Pumper's pride

38 Harrison Ford movie

41 With 68 down, "CHiPs" star

42 Tenor Thomas

46 Writer Hunter

47 Turf

48 Field marshal Rommel

50 Chemistry info

51 Gets slushy

53 Seoul soldier

55 Non-threatening

58 Ms. Goldberg

60 Act like Etna

62 Fine stuff?

64 Actor Everett

65 Bring up

67 Conger

68 Look over

69 "Superman" star

70 Pitch in

72 Somerset

Maugham work

76 Pale

77 Gravy ingredient

79 Prison pariah

80 Rum sum

81 Mead's milieu

83 Eatery

84 Snyder or Hanks

85 Houston ballplayer

87 Detest

90 "Calendar Girl" crooner

92 Fox's foot

94 Desert schlepper

96 Circus barker?

97 Fight site

99 Crank's comment

101 Take risks

102 Auto adornment

103 Very, very satisfied

104 Michael

Ansara series

108 Egg plant?

109 Fondue ingredient

110 Rifleman

114 Business abbr.

115 James of "Misery"

116 Pearl Harbor's locale

119 Hold back

121 Flautist James

123 The Searchers hit

128 Private's posture

129 Lodge member

130 Carry on

131 Joy

Adamson's joy

132 Hirsute Jamaican

133 Occupy a cot

134 Chutzpah

135 Chariot bumper?

DOWN

1 Peruvian of old

2 Oklahoma

city

3 Hitch in haste

4 Quote from

41 down

5 \_ Saud

6 Comic Goodman

7 Snorri's stories

8 He moves cars

9 Excavate

10 Laudatory lyrics

11 French philosopher

12 Isn't completely wrong?

13 Diocese

14 Roman

Polanski film

15 Put behind bars

16 Cardiff's country

18 Where lions laze

21 Nothing but space

23 Handle

24 Class

29 Used to be

32 Imperfection

33 Roof edge

35 Breathe like a bull

36 Reverse

37 Eventual monarch

39 Chip's chum

40 Beseech

41 Fluffy female

42 Mouth piece?

43 Antique ending

44 Impending peril

45 Pericles'

portico

49 Mil. group

52 De Lesseps'

ditch

54 Danny or Stubby

56 Hot rocks?

57 Early orchard?

59 Essence

61 Machinations

63 Some wines

66 Mr. Saarinen

68 See 41

Across

69 San \_, Italy

70 Basics

71 "Dies \_"

73 Interstate exit

74 Coll. cadets

75 Armada member

78 Shred

82 Kind of kiln

84 Prepare to be in "Baywatch"

85 Vigilant

86 Astronomer Khayyam

88 "Bali \_"

89 New Haven hardwood

91 Brew barrel

93 " \_ Named Sue" ('69 hit)

95 Slips up

98 " \_ -Ca-Dabra" ('74 song)

100 Biblical tyrant

103 Musical composition

105 Stream

106 Kevin of "SNL"

107 Unrestrained

108 Churchill trademark

109 Motown's Marvin

111 Organ part

112 Boxer Griffith

113 Hair coloring

115 \_ Grande, AZ

117 Present

118 Weekend warriors (Abbr.)

120 Autocrat

122 Angkor \_ (Cambodian temple)

124 Ivy Leaguer

125 Manage, with "out"

126 Off-rd. transport

127 Formerly known as

Answer Page 7

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11		12	13	14	15	16		
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# Not laughing till it hurts

By Don Flood

It's not like we didn't know. During last year's election campaign, I wrote about what was then believed to be the Worst Joke in the History of the Universe. Asked by TV host David Letterman what made him a "uniter, not a divider," candidate George W. Bush let loose with this memorable quip: "When it comes time to sew up your chest cavity, we use stitches as opposed to opening it up. That's what that means." Since then, humor scientists have been using everything from an electron microscope to the Hubble Telescope to find even the tiniest particle of humor — to no avail. Looking on the bright side, observers said Americans could take heart in knowing that we had survived the worst joke Bush could throw at us. But last week, appearing with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the president made a statement that — if meant to be a joke — would prove that Bush was only toying with us when he told the earlier gag. First, some background — it was recently reported that President Bush and Prime Minister

Blair share a liking for the same brand of toothpaste — Pepsodent. For Bush, apparently, the comedic potential of two world leaders using the same brand of toothpaste was just too good to pass up. After waiting patiently for Blair to finish his statement, President Bush came out of nowhere and said something like, "I just wanted to know if anybody has some extra Pepsodent." What followed was what you might expect if the president were to suddenly announce that he was, in fact, a Canada goose and that it was time for him to fly south for the winter — Absolute Stunned Silence. For a few horrible seconds he glared at the audience, and then the President of the United States was actually reduced to saying, "Get it?" More silence. It was excruciating. It was also, according to humor historians, the most painful public appearance ever for a politician — with the possible exception of the officials who had their heads lopped off during the French Revolution. But at least their deaths came quickly. And what about innocent bystanders who fall victim to his jokes?

While the Constitution doesn't directly address the issue of a president being unable to fulfill his duties as comic-in-chief, Bush could at least show his humanitarian spirit by promising not to tell jokes within 1,000 feet of:

- Schools and hospitals;
- Houses of worship;
- Cows waiting to be milked;
- Dog obedience schools.

But we need to help Bush too. Here are two ideas for guaranteeing the president some laughs. Plan No. 1 — Secret Service agents, aided by specially trained humor-sniffing dogs, could hold up large "Applause" signs at the slightest indication that the president had, in fact, told a joke. To ensure the success of this plan, audience members would be "warmed up" beforehand with jokes and a friendly reminder that the Secret Service was under orders to shoot people who didn't laugh. Plan No. 2 — Appoint a co-host to travel with Bush — someone like Ed McMahon, a Professional Laughter who worked for 30 years on the "Tonight Show." For added effectiveness, McMahon could be cloned. Somehow, I don't think this is a job for Dick Cheney.

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WHOOPI	ERUPT	ART	CHAD
RAISE	EEL	EYE	REEVE
AID	THERAZOR	SEGE	WAN
BROTH	RAT	TOT	SAMOA
CAFE	TOM	ASTRO	LOATHE
SEDAKA	PAW	CAMEL	SEAL
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## Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas

A Bad Name...

Hi, I'm JOE DIRT.

EW...

A REALLY Bad Name...

Hi, I'm JOE Garlic.

Eeesh...

GOT A LIFE By Terri Davis

One thing I've noticed: Trying on swimsuits reminds me of some of the guys I've dated.

How so?

Well, the good ones tend to be cute and supportive.

And the bad ones?

Cheap, wild, and often a clingy pain-in-the-rear.

THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering

HAROLD, YOU HAVE CHUNKS OF TOILET PAPER STUCK ALL OVER YOUR FACE!!

YA, I CUT MYSELF SHAVING.

WITH THAT AMOUNT OF PAPER IT LOOKS MORE LIKE YOU SHAVED YOURSELF CUTTING!!

R.F.D. By Mike Marland

WE'RE NEVER GONNA GET ALL THIS HAY INTO THE BARN BEFORE IT GETS WET, HENRY!

YOU'RE RIGHT, SIM! BETTER GO TO PLAN "B"!

# Clint school district to hold community meetings on bond election

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — The Clint Independent School District has scheduled community meetings in August and September regarding the proposed school bond election scheduled for Oct. 6, 2001.

District officials will be providing bond package information to community members and will be delivering school bond presentations during each scheduled event.

The Clint district trustees voted in favor of adopting an estimated \$67 million bond and maintenance tax election during its regular meeting July 25.

The community meetings will be held at the following locations and dates:

- Clint Junior High School Library, 6 p.m. Aug. 27
- Surratt Elementary Gym, 6 p.m. Aug. 28
- Clint High School, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 28
- Frank Macias Elementary, 6 p.m.

- Aug. 29
  - Desert Hills Elementary, 6 p.m.
- Aug. 30
  - Carroll T. Welch Middle School Library, 6 p.m. Sept. 5
  - East Montana Middle School Library, 6 p.m. Sept. 6
  - Mountain View High School Library, 7 p.m. Sept. 6
  - Montana Vista Elementary Library, 6 p.m. Sept. 11
  - Red Sands Elementary Library, 7:30 p.m. Sept. 11

Early voting on the bond election is scheduled for Sept.19-Oct. 2 at Clint Junior High School, Desert Hills Elementary School and Montana Vista Elementary School. Voters can also take to the polls from 5-9 p.m. Sept. 27 at all Clint ISD campus sites.

Voter registration cards may be picked up at any school campus office. Deadline for voter registration is Sept. 6.

— Contributed by Debra Dominguez

Horizon City Community Chapel

Sunday School .....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Service ..... 10:45 a.m.  
Sunday Yth. Group ...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Adult  
Bible Study .....6:30 p.m.

Mr. Dean Pinney, Pastor

Spanish Services

Estudio Dominical .....9:45 a.m.  
Servicios en Español .. 10:45 a.m.  
Estudio en Español  
Biblico Jueves .....6:30 p.m.

Mr. Pablo Gonzalez, Assoc. Pastor

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# WEATHER

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## SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Hot with a blend of sun and clouds.	Mostly cloudy with a few t-showers.	Sunshine and a few clouds; hot.	Hot with clouds and breaks of sun.	Hot with clouds and sun; a stray t-storm later.	Hot with clouds and sun; a stray t-storm later.	Hot with plenty of sunshine.	Plenty of sunshine; hot.
▲ 94°	▼ 70°	▲ 92° ▼ 70°	▲ 92° ▼ 70°	▲ 92° ▼ 70°	▲ 92° ▼ 70°	▲ 94° ▼ 70°	▲ 96° ▼ 70°

UV INDEX

Statistics for noon.

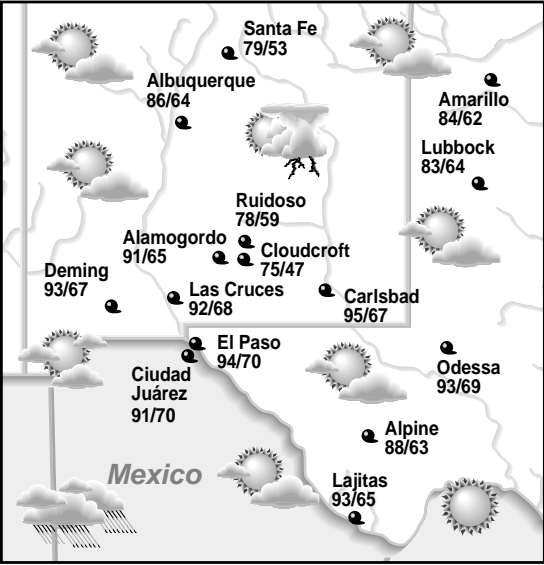
The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Thursday ..... 8 .....High  
Friday ..... 7 .....High  
Saturday ..... 7 .....High  
Sunday ..... 9 .....Very High  
Monday ..... 10 .....Very High  
Tuesday ..... 10 .....Very High  
Wednesday ..... 10 .....Very High

## TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	94	70
Canutillo	95	71
Clint	92	69
E. Montana	94	70
Fabens	92	70
Horizon	95	71
San Elizario	90	69
Socorro	93	69
Tornillo	92	69
Vinton	95	71

Shown is Thursday's weather. Temperatures are Thursday's highs and Thursday night's lows.



## TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur. Hi/Low/W	Fri. Hi/Low/W	Sat. Hi/Low/W	Sun. Hi/Low/W	Mon. Hi/Low/W
Albuquerque	86/64/pc	88/64/pc	90/64/pc	90/64/pc	88/64/pc
Atlanta	92/70/pc	90/70/pc	90/70/t	88/68/s	88/64/pc
Atlantic City	80/68/pc	82/70/c	80/70/t	80/66/pc	82/58/pc
Austin/San Antonio	98/74/pc	98/72/pc	96/74/s	96/76/s	96/74/s
Baltimore	88/70/pc	88/70/pc	84/64/t	84/64/pc	84/58/pc
Boston	82/65/pc	80/67/c	81/67/t	78/64/c	78/57/c
Chicago	78/62/t	78/60/pc	80/60/pc	78/58/pc	78/60/pc
Dallas/Ft. Worth	98/72/pc	96/70/pc	94/68/pc	96/68/pc	92/68/pc
Denver	80/54/pc	82/54/pc	84/56/pc	90/56/pc	88/56/pc
Flagstaff	82/50/pc	79/51/pc	78/50/c	76/51/c	76/49/c
Houston	96/76/pc	96/74/pc	94/74/pc	94/74/pc	96/76/pc
Kansas City	84/64/pc	84/64/s	86/62/pc	86/62/s	82/62/t
Las Vegas	108/81/s	106/81/s	106/79/s	100/77/s	100/75/pc
Miami	92/78/t	92/78/pc	92/78/c	92/78/c	91/76/c
Minneapolis	74/54/pc	76/58/s	76/56/sh	78/58/s	80/60/pc
New Orleans	90/78/pc	92/76/pc	90/74/pc	90/74/pc	92/70/s
New York City	84/72/pc	84/70/c	82/70/t	82/68/pc	80/62/pc
Philadelphia	88/70/s	86/70/pc	84/70/t	84/66/pc	82/60/pc
Phoenix	108/84/s	108/86/pc	106/84/pc	104/82/pc	104/80/pc
Portland	84/58/pc	80/56/s	78/56/s	78/56/s	80/56/s
San Francisco	74/58/pc	74/56/pc	72/56/pc	70/54/pc	70/54/pc
Seattle	78/56/pc	74/54/pc	72/54/pc	72/54/pc	74/54/pc
Tucson	100/76/pc	100/74/pc	98/74/pc	96/74/pc	100/74/pc
Washington, DC	88/72/pc	88/72/pc	86/70/t	86/68/pc	86/64/pc

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

## AGRICULTURE

Temperatures will not be as oppressive as recent days, but it will remain hot. A few thunderstorms will be around Thursday night, but the area will remain in a rather dry weather pattern. Expect temperatures near or a bit above normal with below-normal precipitation this upcoming week.

All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2001

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