

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 28, No. 46

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

NOVEMBER 15, 2001

NEWSBRIEFS

Socorro passes Charter

A substantial majority of the Socorro voters who went to the polls last week approved a long-delayed Charter which will allow this Mission Valley community to grow both in land mass and administratively. Of the 13,000 registered voters in Socorro, 384 voted in favor, 82 voted against. Councilman Sam Brewster, an avid supporter of the Charter, said passage of the document marks a new beginning for his city and said his thanks goes to the people of Socorro. Several prior attempts to pass a home-rule Charter have been marked by bitter political infighting in Socorro, which currently has a population of 27,000. As the fledgling city has grown in population, it has been hindered because the legislative Charter by which it was created did not allow for annexation. The new Charter will also make substantial changes in administration of the City as elected officials will no longer function as department heads and representation on the council will be elected by district rather than at-large.

Veterans appreciated

It was not only a celebration of U.S. veterans but also everything they stand for — sacrifice, honor, courage, democracy and ultimately, freedom. Clint Jr. High School students paid tribute Nov. 12 to hometown veterans with a Veterans Day Assembly at their school, located at 13100 Alameda Ave. “We appreciate what they’ve done for us,” Nikki Gonzales, a seventh-grader at the middle school, said. “These veterans have done more for us than most people will do for our country in a lifetime.” The students, faculty and staff at Clint Jr. invited about 20 local veterans to their school for various Veterans Day student presentations and so that the veterans could in turn share with the students what no history book could — first-hand war stories. Gilbert Molina, a long-time world history teacher at the middle school and former infantry officer with the U.S. Army, dubbed the school’s special guests “living history.”

In other news

■ The new Texas Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) executive committee met for the first time on Oct. 31 in Austin, with all newly-appointed members attending, none of which are from El Paso County. The new agency, which combines the former Center for Rural Health Initiative (CRHI) and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program from the Texas Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, was created by the 77th Legislative Session. For more information, call 512-479-8898.

■ Former Tornillo resident Dr. Corina Gardea, currently an executive administrator with the Dallas County Community College District, has been named president of Phoenix College, part of the Maricopa Community College District in Arizona. Dr. Gardea’s parents, Ted and Celia Gardea, are

See BRIEFS, Page 8

The poor complain about the money they can't get, and the rich complain about the money they can't keep.

— Quips and Quotes

Panorama Village celebrates first-time water service near Socorro

By Yuri Soto
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — The fast-paced growth in El Paso and its surrounding areas took a step forward on Saturday morning as the tiny community of Panorama added another chapter to its short five-year history.

The village of Panorama, located just north of the city of Socorro, celebrated the installation of water and sewage service with the help of El Paso County and the El Paso Interreligious Sponsoring Organization (EPISO).

It was an accomplishment its citizens felt proud of after going through various rejections from people and agencies that provide community-wide utility services.

“When we started this project a year ago, looking for water for our *colonia*, we went to various departments in the county and we only received negative answers to our problem,” said EPISO member and Panorama resident Oscar Solis. “When we joined EPISO, they told us there was a solution to our problem. They showed us how to get organized and participate in county meetings. Now, a year later, I

am proud to say that we have accomplished our biggest step in our colonia.”

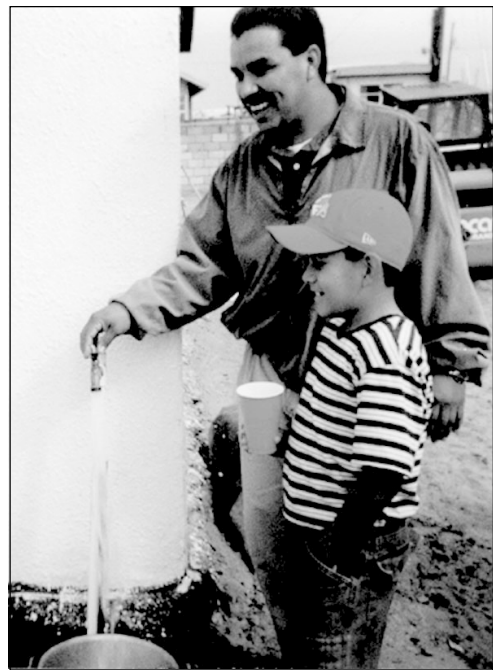
Solis said that the project itself has been worked on for about a year with labor help from community members. The project itself was aided by the STEP Grant from the state of Texas to help build communities. The Texas Department of Housing and Community Development awarded the grant to the county.

EPISO helped with the leverage and distribution of the grant money given to the county.

“We have been working on the water issues since the early 1980’s,” said longtime EPISO member Teodora Trujillo. “We have been able to leverage for the El Paso County over \$200,000 for water and sewer, and we continue to do it for the *colonias* that do not have it. We have been working to get streets paved, the passing of Proposition 2. We have been working with the state and federal government to better the *colonias*.”

The completion of the project at Panorama was celebrated by the opening of a water faucet outside Solis’ home and a mariachi dedication, which followed a feast among

See WATER, Page 6



WATER AT LAST — Oscar Solis and one of the younger residents of Panorama Village say it all with their smiles as they access on-site water during a celebration last weekend.

Canutillo youth understand ‘what patriotism is all about’

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

CANUTILLO — To those men and women who have served their country in the Armed Forces, staff and students in the Canutillo school district remembered and honored them in Veterans’ Day observances at Damian and Childress Elementary schools Monday.

The ceremonies at Damian kicked off its observance of National Veterans Awareness Week.

The focus of ceremonies at Childress was honoring four veterans of the Korean War.

“We are here to honor all veterans for the freedoms we enjoy,” said Damian principal Max Padilla in welcoming the overflow crowd of parents and veterans as well as students in the school cafeteria.

He told the veterans that the students will carry on what they had given to their country — freedom. To the students, Padilla added, “I know that you will carry on for what we have here today.”

At Damian, a high school Naval ROTC honor guard hoisted an American flag which had flown over the battleship USS Missouri. The outdoor ceremony was followed by a series of patriotic presentations by approximately 100 students from different classes in the school cafeteria.

• Judy Pina’s sixth-grade class recited the preamble to the Constitution.

• Penny Cogdell’s second-graders sang “God Bless the USA.”

• Monie Menacker’s first-grade class sang “You’re a Grand Old Flag.”

• A break in the student presentations was the performance of “America the Beautiful” by vice principal Dave Parker and music teacher Dan Garcia. Parker sang and played the guitar and Garcia played the flute.



— Photos by Alfredo Vasquez

HONORARY HONOREES — Childress Elementary School honored Korean War Veterans, from left, Ruben N. Ramirez, Pedro Sanchez, Manny Ramirez, and Andres Padilla during the school’s Veterans Day celebration.



BREAK A LEG — Damian Elementary School students in Elizabeth Perez’s first grade class waited anxiously to perform during the school’s Veterans Day Ceremony.

• Liz Perez’s first-grade class sang “The Star Spangled Banner.” The ceremonies triggered other memories and other concerns.

It reminded Amanda Alderete, a second-grader, of the terrorist at-

tacks of Sept. 11. “...when I sing ‘America the Beautiful,’ I remember all of the people who died in the twin towers crash—that I am safe. I feel sorry for the people who died. For sixth-grader Marcus

Wolschlager, it meant to honor everybody in the United States, but especially the veterans who fought in the wars and “fought for the freedom of others.”

Gabby Garcia, a sixth-grader, “It reminded me that there are bad people out there who want to hurt us, but we will remain strong.” It also reminded her of a cousin, Mark, who is in the Air Force in Germany.

For Pam Mendoza, a reading teacher at Damian and coordinator for the patriotic ceremonies, it reminded her of her family and their commitment to serve. Her father was a career man in the Air Force and five brothers also in the Air Force.

She expressed particular concern for one brother, Tony Zimitski, 45, who was recently called up in the Air Force Reserve and is now stationed in Saudi Arabia.

Afterwards Padilla said his school’s veterans’ ceremonies teach a special lesson to the students that they can’t learn in the classroom. “It makes it real life to them. When you present it to them like this, they can understand that we live in the best country in the world.”

Echoing Padilla was Parker who added, “It brought it home. Kids can understand what patriotism is all about.”

The morning ceremonies at Damian were followed by the afternoon activities at Childress Elementary.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of New Mexico, Post 4384, provided the honor and color guard for flag-raising ceremonies at the flagpole. The 755 students sang patriotic songs and took part in a synchronized flag-waving performance.

Special guests of the school were four veterans of the Korean War. They are Ruben N. Ramirez, Army; Manny Ramirez, Marines; Pedro Sanchez, Army; and Andres Padilla, Army.



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Obnoxious or not, we need him

HORIZON — We all met I'm Sorry at a tender age, kindergarten or before. Nobody liked him. He made us feel all squirmy inside, itchy and guilty.

Now that we are all grown up we still don't like him much. He still makes us feel that way. But I'm Sorry is a very effective lubricant to keeping the machinations of civilization working smoothly.

There are so many facets to I'm Sorry's personality that it is hard to describe them all. None of them are particularly appealing.

Consider two big guys standing next to a dusty pickup and a dead dog. Hey, man, I'm sorry I backed over your dog. He was a good 'un. An uncomfortable silence follows — the guilty big guy wonders if the other big guy will slap him on the back and offer him a beer or lay him out in the yard with a gutter punch.

Consider a kid standing there with big tears in even bigger eyes. Dad has just given her a good rashing for not doing her evening chores when he finds out the school bus broke down and the kid has just walked in the front door. Enter I'm Sorry. Dad has to introduce him at this point or else he won't be able to look himself, his mate or his kid in the eye for days.

Consider the teenager who just ate a big chunk out of tonight's dinner. He should have known better. Mom will have to come up with a whole new strategy to feed the starving masses. Now he's got a tough choice — not only must he introduce I'm Sorry but if he means it, he'll have to give up some of his precious "time off" to help her fix a new meal.

Ignore I'm Sorry at your own peril. Without him a difficult situation just gets worse.

You can get rid of I'm Sorry, though. Like most unwanted guests,

he knows how to take a hint. If you ignore him enough he will go away and then we're left wondering where he is and why he won't come and help get us out of a spot. As obnoxious as he is, as uncomfortable and disconcerting in our personal space, he is a vital part of any successful relationship.

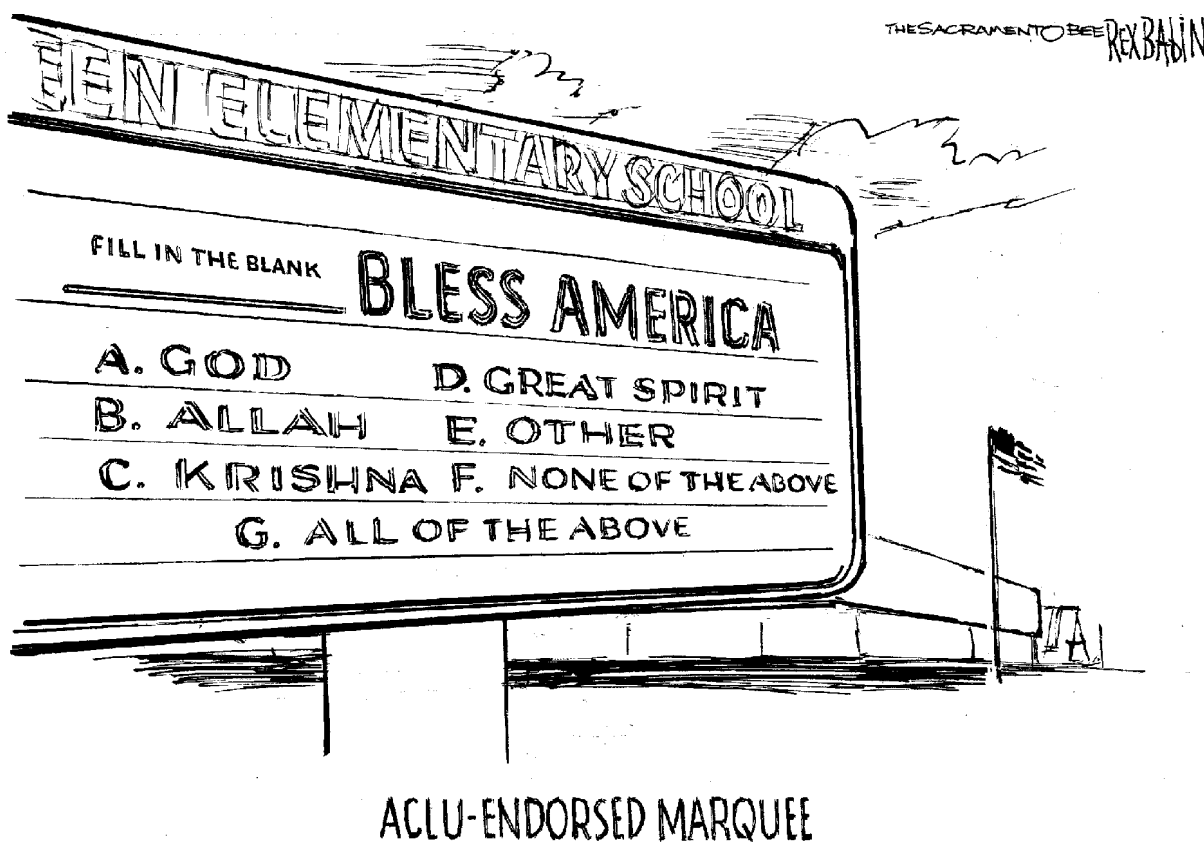
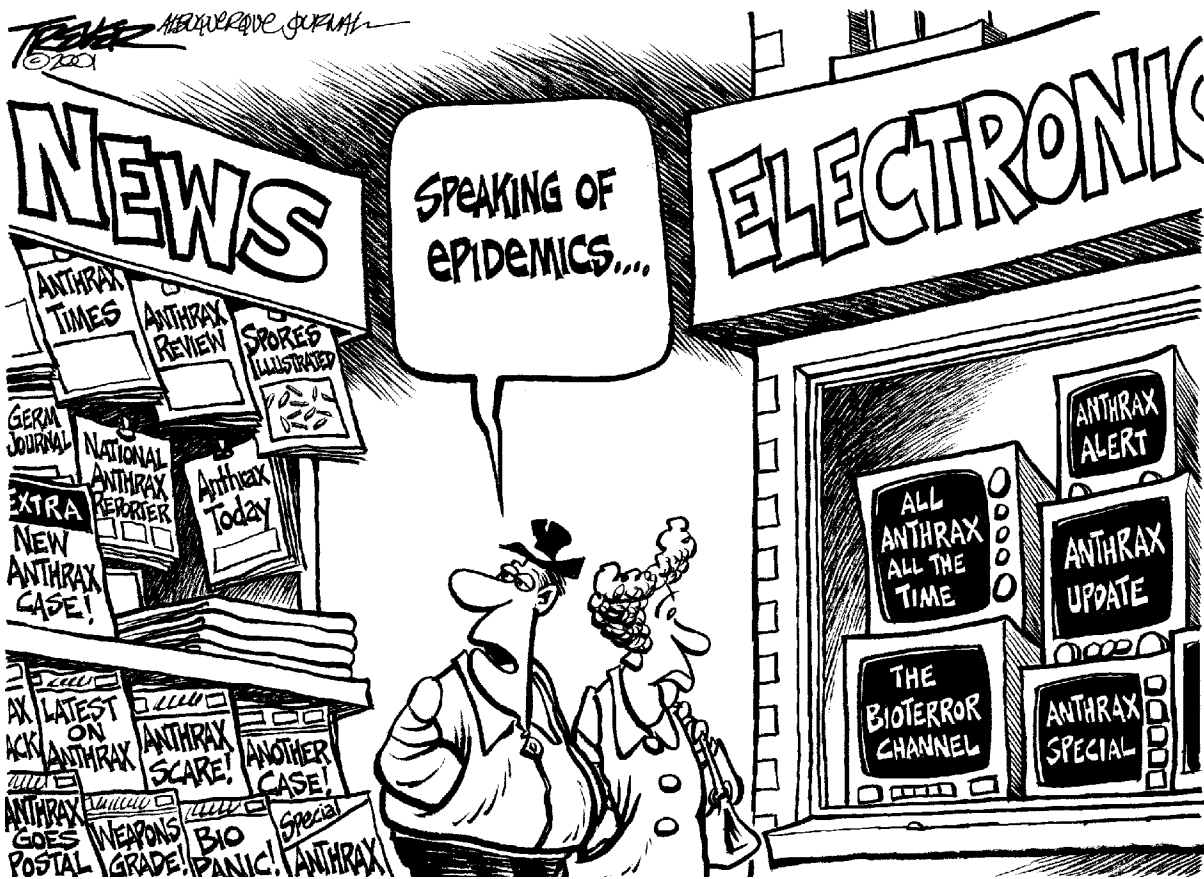
Consider a young couple. A friend of mine told me recently that men get married hoping the woman won't change. The woman gets married hoping the man will. Usually he doesn't — and she does. Enter Dashed Expectations. Counter with I'm Sorry.

Tragically, though, there are people who deeply love and care about another person but have neglected I'm Sorry to such an extent that he's no longer around. The barbs, the slights, the insults and the wounded silences go on and on. Eventually we find that I'm Sorry isn't the only one who moved out — he took with him Harmony, Contentment, Joy, Happiness and Love.

The one I'm Sorry I haven't figured out how to say is the one when we can't clearly explain to the other person exactly what it is we're sorry about — when we don't know how to introduce I'm Sorry into the conversation in a truthful way.

We know that the rift is complete, that the hurt will never go away on either side, but we still want to move on, to close over the wound and find a new and different way to interact that is acceptable to both sides.

So how do you say: "I'm sorry that because of (upbringing, political affiliation, family values, financial status, principles, state of residence, state of mind, color of eyes, sex, national origin or religion) I cannot agree with you, I resent what you did, I've had a bellyful of your behavior,



but I still want to find a way to get along with you?"

Maybe when we figure out how to

say that one, there really will be world peace.

(Somewhere in here I wanted to say

I'm sorry that last week I attributed "Rage Over the Last Penny" to Bach instead of Beethoven!)

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Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

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



Lay the rumors to rest

The past eight weeks have been tough. There are scores of terrible, heartbreaking stories out there. Stories of lost loved ones. Stories of desperate situations. Stories of terrible circumstances.

These stories have been difficult to swallow. They've brought on emotions that many of us did not know we possessed. And then on top of these human life stories, we have the never-ending barrage of warnings, news updates and added threats. Sometimes it's just too much to handle. We force ourselves to close the newspaper and turn off the television. Anything to find some relief.

The amount of information is staggering. But when you start adding "urban legends" to the list, it becomes too much.

Urban legends are a lot like the "telephone" game we played when we were kids. With every additional person who tells the story, it becomes more and more distorted. Like any rumor that circulates at the office water cooler, most of the time, we have no idea how these things get started. A friend of a friend of a friend? A sibling's friend's roommate from college? Or maybe a conversation overheard in line at the grocery store? Unfortunately, what begins as harmless gossip turns into tales of confusion and anxiety.

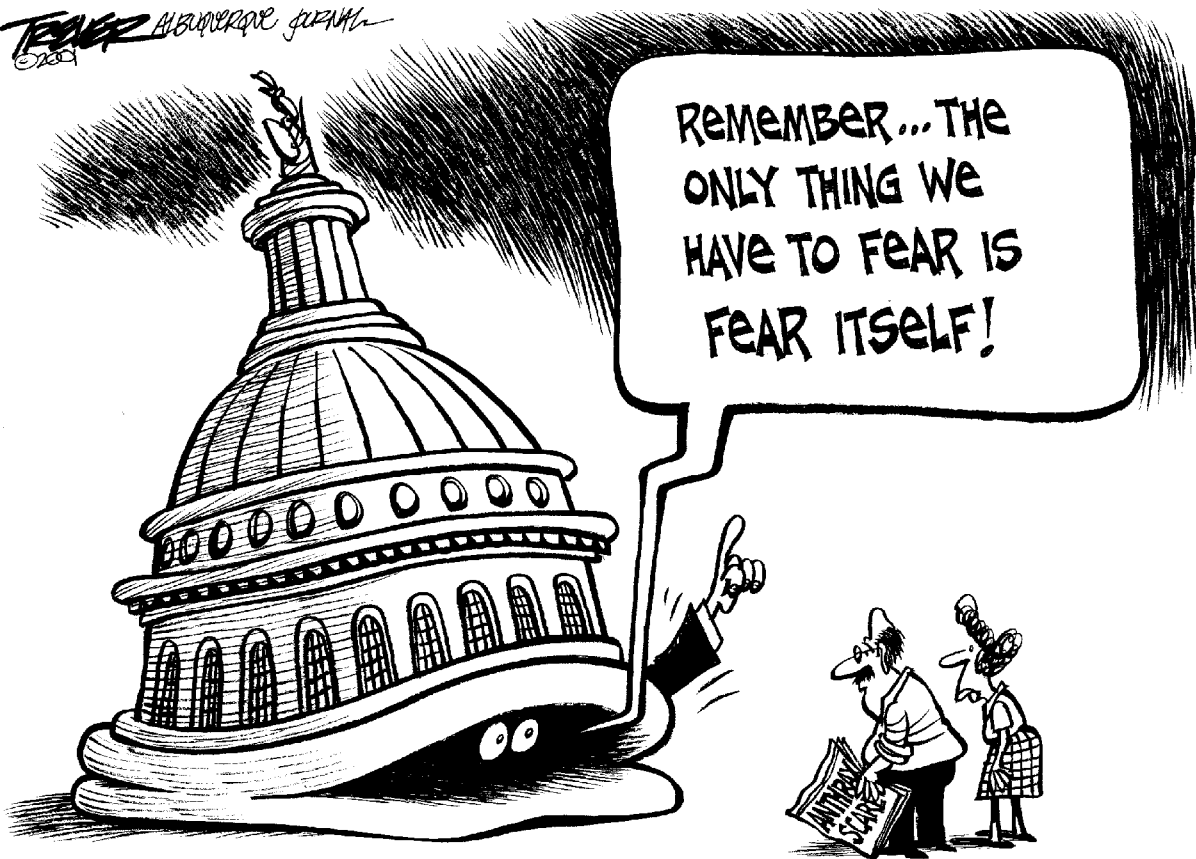
In an attempt to end the rumors, I'd like to introduce three myths that have been circulating since Sept. 11.

• An email distributed within days of the Sept. 11 attack claimed that thirty U-Haul trucks had been stolen

by terrorists who will use them in the ongoing attack on America. This helpful "heads-up" email fed upon the fear that further terrorist attacks were imminent and that they could take place anywhere, at any time. Thankfully, this rumor was completely false. Spokespeople for Ryder, U-Haul and Verizon trucks denied that any of their trucks went missing or had been stolen.

• Just weeks before Oct. 31, another warning began circulating. The message warned of a potential terrorist strike on Halloween. The email tells of a girl who received a letter from her disappeared Afghani boyfriend. In the letter, the boyfriend warns that terrorist are going to strike at U.S. malls on Halloween. This story is another example of an email hoax. Although the FBI's National Press Office fielded many phone calls about this message, they could find no evidence of an original letter. There were no attack on malls or any other destination. This was nothing more than a cruel hoax meant to concern people.

• Many of us heard rumors of a crop duster that sprayed boats on the Mississippi with a harmful substance. There was a second rumor that a couple days later, a second plane dusted a Coast Guard post with fine white granules. The close proximity of the two incidents fueled concerns that yet another terrorist attack was underway. Thankfully, both incidents turned out to be absent of ill intent. As it turns out, the Mississippi boat was sprayed by harmless smoke. And the plane that flew over the



Reyes Reports

During a time of war

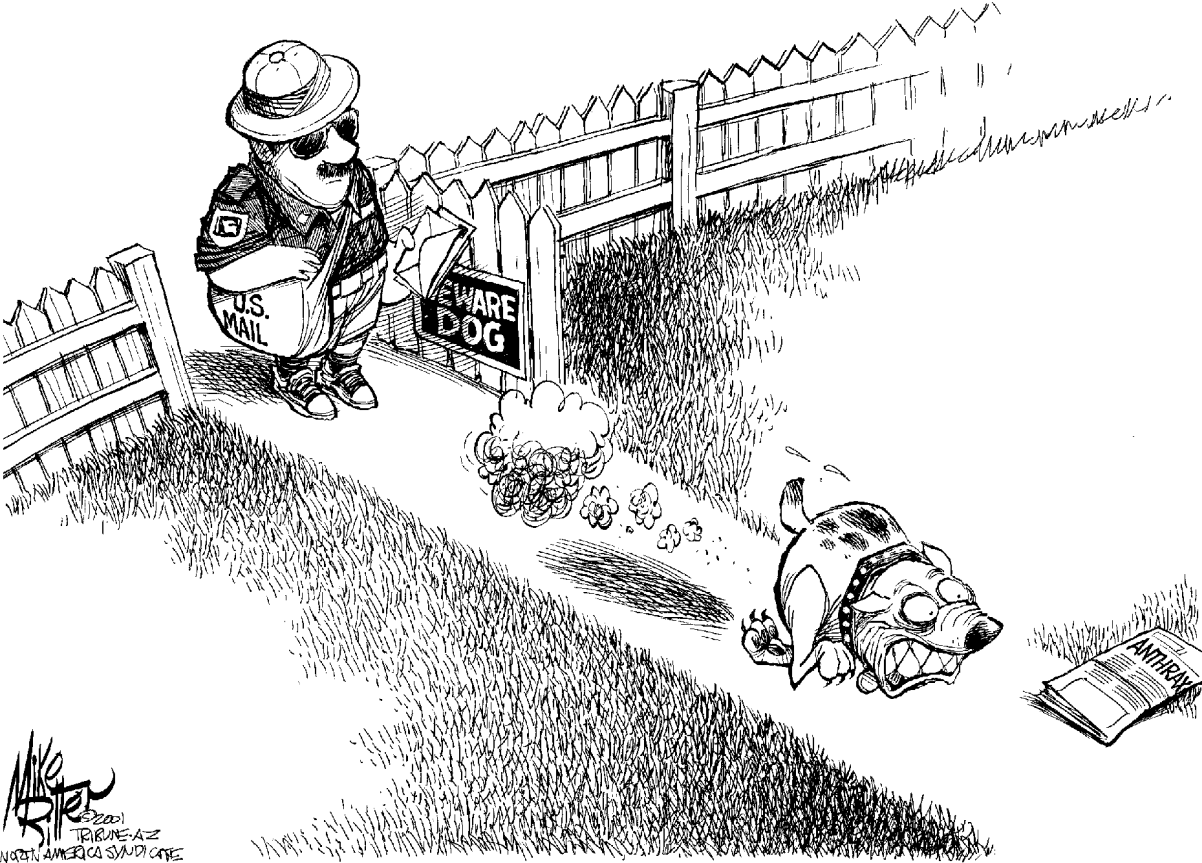
By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Last week, my office in Washington, D.C. was reopened after being forced to close on Oct. 17 due to the detection of anthrax on Capitol Hill. The detection of anthrax in Sen. Tom Daschle's office caused the Speaker of the House to close to office buildings for a precautionary environmental sweep to determine if anthrax was a threat to members and staff. Every office was closed and relocated to sites away from Capitol Hill. The precautionary tests resulted in the discovery of traces of anthrax in the Ford House Office Building as well as the Longworth House Office Building where my staff and I work. While the other office buildings were

cleared and its occupants allowed to return within a week, our building and a few others remained closed much longer. My staff and I were relocated to the General Accounting Office (GAO), where we continued to work for the people of El Paso. Although this displacement was an inconvenience, we conducted business as usual from the GAO.

One major obstacle we are facing is the disruption of mail. Our mail has been halted until a thorough system of inspection can be developed and implemented. It is not known when normal mail service will resume. Constituent correspondence has always

See REYES, Page 7



Happy Thanksgiving

from Judge Ruben Lujan, Justice Court #6 in Clint, TX. I encourage all El Pasoans to be especially careful during this peak travel time. Enjoy your travels and family gatherings.

May God bless you, and God bless America.

PLEASE, don't drink and drive.

Political advertising paid for by Ruben Lujan, Treasurer. Campaign to Elect Ruben Lujan for Justice of the Peace, Pct. 6.



View from the porch

By Linda Mussehl

Caution: Women at work

After a recent column celebrating blue-collar men and the nature of real work with real materials, I was worried that I gave working women short shrift. I didn't include the politically correct weasel words, adding "and women," or "or her" in every sentence. Nor did I acknowledge the women working alongside men in agriculture, construction and other traditional "man's work" jobs.

Upon reflection though, I didn't because I didn't need to.

When it comes to real, non-symbolic work, all women — regardless of their day jobs — are blue-collar workers. Even when they do a full day's work manipulating symbols as stockbrokers, data entry clerks, financial analysts, lawyers, whatever, they usually go home at night to real work.

At least in some phase of their lives, most women are right in the middle of blue-collar reality, dealing with the snot, tears, blood and vomit of daily life. There's nothing symbolic about giving birth (that's why they call it labor) or caring for children, the ill and the elderly.

Women still do the bulk of daily home life's heavy lifting: cleaning floors, washing clothes, cooking meals. Or if they can afford to have house help — hiring other women to do the daily nitty-gritty for them — they are the straw boss, organizing and overseeing the work.

For the majority of us, cooking keeps us in touch, literally, with reality. Most of us bear small scars on our hands and arms from our tools — a burn here, a cut there.

Even the simple act of making a meatloaf reminds us of the essentials of life. Bare hands squishing together bloody hamburger, raw eggs, filler and flavorings, we transmute the raw materials of life into food. There's nothing symbolic about filling empty bellies.

Our national history is full of women who fronted alongside their men, working beside them to clear, plant and harvest the land. The women took over their husbands' farm or ranch work temporarily when the men were away working for cash money, fighting our wars or were injured. Ranch memoirs are filled with stories of women who put their newest baby in a box in front of the saddle to ride out to do what was necessary in the pasture.

Others, suddenly widowed, had to pick up the reins, responsible for family survival. I find myself wondering about the women shown as head-of-household in old census lists, imagining their grief, exhaustion and panic at finding themselves on their own in the wilderness that this country once was.

For example, the muster (census) of Elizabeth Cittie, Virginia (a satellite of Jamestown), in the autumn of 1624 shows a Susan Bush, age 20, as head of a household consisting of herself, a four-year-old girl named Sara Spence (an orphan Susan sheltered?), and five male laborers. Susan herself had arrived in Jamestown as a child of 13, and had lived through short rations and Indian raids. Her husband, John, had recently died, and now she faced the coming winter and spring with only 12 barrels of corn as six months' rations for seven people.

History books tell of the leaders, the powerful and political. Susan Bush and her millions of nameless sisters are our real-life history. And strength.

TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger Moore Nov. 12, 1839, President Lamar recommends the Alabama-Coushatta Indians be guaranteed permanent occupancy of their reservation lands.



Social Security: Q & A

by Ray Vigil

Q. I will be 62 years of age in March of 2001. Can you tell me when can I file my application for social security benefits and what documents do I need?

A. An application for social security benefits can be filed as early as three months before the month you turn 62. You should have an original or certified copy of your birth certificate or baptismal certificate recorded before your fifth birthday. If you were born outside the United States, a birth record from your country of birth along with your naturalization certificate or alien registration card. If you were in the military service, you must submit a form DD 214 for each period of enlistment in the armed forces. You must

also have your W2 form for the previous year and a current estimate of your expected earnings for this year and next year. If you were married, information about each one of your marriages and if your spouse and children are applying, their birth certificates and social security numbers.

Q. I have not received any information regarding the annual cost of living increase or information regarding the new limits on amounts an individual can earn and still receive social security benefits.

A. Monthly Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits to more than 50 million Americans will increase 2.6 percent in

2002. Social Security recipients will see their checks increase in January 2001 and Supplemental Security recipients will receive the increase on Dec. 31, 2001. This means that the average monthly benefits for all retired workers will rise from \$852 to \$874. The maximum federal SSI monthly payment will rise from \$531 to \$545. The retirement earnings test does not apply beginning the month an individual attains age 65. In 2002 an individual attaining age 65 can earn \$30,000 and if you are under 65, you can earn \$11,280 a year.

Q. I have difficulty walking and my doctor has told me I must use a wheelchair. Will Medicare pay for the cost of a wheelchair?

A. Medicare Part B medical insurance helps pay for durable medical

equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers and other equipment prescribed by a doctor for home use. Contact your Medicare carrier at 1-800-583-2236 for more information.

Q. I have a friend who is self-employed and, of course, does not have paychecks from which Social Security taxes are deducted. Just how does a self-employed person pay his Social Security taxes?

A. People who are self-employed report their earnings and pay Social Security tax with their Federal income tax return by April 15th each year.

Q My wife recently died at age 56. She had worked steadily up until becoming ill a couple of months ago. I'm 60 years old. Could I get Social

Security benefits as her surviving spouse?

A. Yes. You, as the surviving spouse, may be able to get survivors' benefits beginning at age 60, provided that your late wife had enough years of work under Social Security to be fully insured for benefits. Contact Social Security for an appointment to file for widower's benefits on your late wife's record. They will look at her Social Security record and determine your eligibility.

For more information visit your local Social Security office, see www.ssa.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935

Classified Ads

LEGALS

As per Article V, Sec. 5.05(a), all owners and lienholders have ten (10) days from this date to reclaim their vehicles at Southwest Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges: VIN - FIOYKEI5532, Ford F-150, blue. WTCC-11/15/01

Town of Anthony
Public Notice

At a regular Anthony Town Council meeting held Oct. 23, 2001, the Town Council voted to adopt Ord. #395, which is an ordinance regulating sexually oriented businesses in the Town of Anthony. The ordinance discusses licensing, fees, inspections, suspension of license, revocation of license and locations of the business. A conviction violating Sec. 4 or 13 is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000. Other section are punishable by fine not to exceed \$200. At the same meeting the Town Council voted to adopt Ord. #396, which is an ordinance regulating outdoor flea markets. The Ordinance gives compliance requirements, waiver of provision, application and processing of operator's permit. Annual fee for operator's permit is \$600 for the first year. Renewal fee for subsequent years shall be \$500. WTCC: 11/15/01

NOTICE

El Paso Electric Company (EPE) intends to secure a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) from the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) for the construction and installation of a 115kV transmission line in east El Paso County, Texas. The PUCT requires EPE to publish notice in a newspaper having general circulation in the county(ies) where the CCN is being requested. **Persons with questions about this project should contact EPE at (915) 543-5811 or (915) 543-4025. Persons who wish to intervene in the proceeding or comment upon action sought, should**

contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas at P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call the Public Utility Commission at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the commission at (512) 936-7136. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is December 17, 2001, and a letter requesting intervention should be received by the commission by that date.

The project is contained within a 30-square-mile area located 2 miles east of Loop 375 at the Montwood/Zaragosa intersection. The proposed 7.8-mile project will connect EPE's Montwood Substation to the Coyote Substation.

EPE has a preferred route and two alternative routes, which are described below. Acquisition of right-of-way will be required.

Preferred Route (G)
The preferred route begins at the Montwood Substation located in the northwest corner of Section 2, Block 79, Township 3 and heads east, paralleling the north section line of Section 2, Block 79, Township 3 and existing roads for approximately 4 miles to a future substation site at Ascension Street. From this point, the line turns north and parallels Ascension Street for approximately 1.2 miles, then continues west along the south section line of Section 17, Block 78, Township 2 for approximately 0.7 mile. From this point the line heads north for approximately 1 mile through vacant land and continues 1 mile north along Krag Street to the Coyote Substation located in the northwest quarter of Section 8, Block 78, Township 2.

Alternative Route (F)
Beginning at the Montwood Substation located in the northwest corner of Section 2, Block 79, Township 3, the route heads east, paralleling the north section line of Section 2, Block 79, Township 3 and existing roads for approximately 3

miles to a future substation site. From this point the route heads north, following an existing access road along the west section line of Section 20, Block 78, Township 2 for approximately 1 mile, then turns east along the south section line of Section 17, Block 78, Township 2 for approximately 0.3 mile. From this point the line heads north for approximately 1 mile through vacant land and continues 1 mile north along Krag Street to the Coyote Substation located in the northwest quarter of Section 8, Block 78, Township 2.

Alternative Route (H)
Beginning at the Montwood Substation located in the northwest corner of Section 2, Block 79, Township 3 the route heads east, paralleling the north section line of Section 2, Block 79, Township 3 and existing roads for approximately 4 miles to a future substation site at Ascension Street. From this point, the line turns north and parallels Ascension Street for approximately 1.6 miles, then heads west for approximately 0.7 mile. From this point the line heads north for approximately 0.6 mile through vacant land and continues 1 mile north along Krag Street to the Coyote Substation located in the northwest quarter of Section 8, Block 78, Township 2.

The estimated cost of this project is \$2,689,462.61. A map of this project may be viewed at the El Paso Electric Company office located at 123 W. Mills Street, El Paso, Texas, in Suite 295. A copy of the map may be obtained at this same location or from Lawrence Thoenen, EPE, at (915) 543-5811 or Martha A. Velasco, EPE, at (915) 543-4025.

AVISO

La compañía El Paso Electric (EPE) intenta obtener un Certificado de Necesidad (CNN) de la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas (PUCT) para la construcción de una línea de transmisión de 115kV en el este del Condado de El Paso Texas. La PUCT requiere que EPE publique un aviso en alguno de los periódicos de circulación

general. **Aquellas personas con preguntas con respecto a este proyecto, deberán comunicarse a la oficina de EPE al (915) 543-5811 o al (915) 543-4025. Las personas que deseen intervenir en este procedimiento o que deseen hacer algún comentario sobre esta acción, deberán comunicarse con la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas a la siguiente dirección, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3325 o llamar a la Comisión de Servicios Públicos al (512) 936-7120 o al (888) 782-8477. Las personas sordomudas con teléfonos de texto TTY pueden ponerse en contacto con la comisión llamando al (512) 936-7136. El último día para intervenir en este procedimiento es el día 17 de Diciembre de 2001, enviando una carta solicitando o intervención que deber ser recibida por la comisión para esa fecha.**

Este proyecto abarca dentro una área de 30 millas cuadradas localizado 2 millas al Este del Loop 375 en la intersección Montwood/Zaragosa. El proyecto de 7.8 millas de línea conectará a la subestación Montwood con la subestación Coyote de EPE.

EPE tiene tres rutas, una de preferencia ya dos alternativas, las cuales se describen a continuación. Se requiere adquisición de derecho de paso.

Ruta Principal (G)
La ruta principal da principio en la subestación Montwood ubicada en la esquina Noroeste de la Sección 2, Block 79, Township 3 con camino hacia el Este, paralela con la línea Norte de la Sección 2, Block 79, Township 3 y caminos existentes con una distancia de aproximadamente 4 millas hacia el lugar de la futura subestación en la calle Ascencion. A partir de este punto, la línea corre hacia el Norte y paralela con la calle Ascencion a una distancia de aproximadamente 1.2

millas, continuando hacia el oeste a lo largo de la línea hacia el sur de la Sección 17, Block 78, Township 2 a una distancia de aproximadamente 0.7 millas. A partir de este punto la línea corre hacia el Norte a una distancia de aproximadamente 1 milla pasando por un terreno baldío y continuando a una distancia de aproximadamente 1 milla hacia al Norte a lo largo de la calle Krag con dirección hacia la subestación Coyote, ubicada en la esquina Noroeste de las calles Marvin y Krag en la Sección 5, Block 78, Township 2.

Ruta Alternativa (F)
Comenzando en la subestación Montwood ubicada en la esquina Noroeste de la Sección 2, Block 79, Township 3, la ruta se dirige hacia el este paralela con la línea Norte de la Sección 2, Block 79, Township 3, y caminos existentes a una distancia de aproximadamente 3 millas del lugar de la futura Subestación una milla al Oeste de la calle Ascencion. A partir de este punto, la ruta se dirige hacia el norte, siguiendo un camino de acceso en existencia a lo largo de la línea Oeste de la Sección 20, Block 78, Township 2, a una distancia de aproximadamente 1 milla, da vuelta hacia el Este a lo largo de la línea Sur de la Sección 17, Block 78, Township 2 a una distancia de aproximadamente 0.3 millas. A partir de este punto la línea se dirige hacia el Norte a una distancia de aproximadamente 1 milla pasando por un terreno baldío y continuar a una distancia de aproximadamente 1 milla hacia el Norte a lo largo de la calle Krag hacia la Subestación Coyote ubicada en la esquina Noroeste de las calles Marvin y Krag en la Sección 5, Block 78, Township 2.

Ruta Alternativa (H)
Comenzando en la subestación Montwood ubicada en la esquina Noroeste de la Sección 2, Block 79, Township 3, la ruta se dirige hacia el este paralela con la línea Norte de la Sección 2, Block 79, Township 3 y

caminos existentes a una distancia de aproximadamente 4 millas hacia al lugar de la futura subestación en la calle Ascencion. A partir de este punto, la línea se dirige hacia el Norte y paralela con la calle Ascencion a una distancia de aproximadamente 1.6 millas, y luego hacia el Oeste a una distancia de aproximadamente 0.7 millas. A partir de este punto la línea se dirige hacia el Norte a una distancia de aproximadamente 0.6 millas pasando por un terreno baldío y continuando a una distancia de 1 milla a lo largo de la calle Krag hacia la Subestación Coyote ubicada en la esquina Noroeste de las calles Marvin y Krag en la Sección 5, Block 78, Township 2.

El costo aproximado del proyecto es de \$2,689,462.61. Un mapa del proyecto esta disponible para consulta en la oficina de El Paso Electric, ubicada en el 123 W. Mills, El Paso, Texas, Suite 295. Si desea una copia del mapa, se puede obtener en las mismas oficinas con el Sr. Lawrence Thoenen, EPE, número de teléfono (915) 543-5811 o Martha Velasco, EPE, número de teléfono (915) 543-4025. WTCC: 11/08 & 11/15/01

BARGAINS

FOR SALE: Simmons sofa sleeper, blue, like-new condition, \$400. 8x10 oval blue braided rug, \$40. Black metal patio glider w/cushions, \$50. Walnut veneer storage hutch, \$10. White Westinghouse window air-conditioner, 5200 BTU, \$75. Small student desk, \$10. Two-drawer file cabinet, \$10. Smith Corona Model 3850 word processor, \$100. Call 852-4356 for appt. to see. Must sell by Dec. 12. Everything is OBO.

SAVE, SAVE, SAVE: Steel custom buildings/ any size. Limited time/call to reserve yours. Quality general contractors, 915-751-5987.

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE: 3703 Roslyn in Horizon City,

Friday-Sunday, Nov. 16-18, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Miscellaneous items.

MOVING SALE: 1212 Roslyn Drive in Horizon City, Nov. 16-18 - Friday, noon to 4 p.m.; Sat-Sun 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bedroom wall unit, couch, 2 queen mattresses, dining room, buffet, hutch, 32-inch Sony TV, satellite dish with 2 converter boxes, refrigerator, washing machine, patio furniture, kitchen set w/six chairs, power tools, 1992 Chevy Cavalier.

HELP WANTED

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

HOME LOANS

CASH Loans
Homes, Commercial or Vacant Property
WE SAY YES
Call Abel at 779-7979 or 778-7878
2/7/02

PET SERVICES

PET SITTER - Short or long-term. Leave your pets at home, I will care for them. Call Patty Mowad, 203-5593 or 852-3878. 11/22

RENTAL

TOWNHOUSE - Horizon City. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, carport, golf course community. Great condition. Deposit, first month rent and references required. Available Dec. 15. Call Angie, days at 534-6052 or evenings, 598-9975. 11/15-TFN

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.

Alcohólicos Anónimos Grupo Paso Del Norte sesiones lunes a sabado, a 8-9 de la tarde, 8501 Kingsway, Westway. 886-4948 para informacion.

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous Group 8 de Enero meets at 15360 Horizon Blvd. in Horizon City on Mondays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. Call 859-0484 for information. *Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solución. Visitemos. Alcohólicos Anónimos, Grupo 8 de Enero, 15360 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, sesiones lunes a sábado a 8 de la tarde. Informacion: 859-0484.*

SERVICES

"Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring"
JIFFY GLASS REPAIR
Windshield Repair Specialists
By appt. at your home or office:
R.V. Dick Harshberger
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BERT'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR
Domestic and Foreign
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- Heating/cooling
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Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.

AL'S PLACE, INC.
Household or Commercial Storage and Yard Space
Fenced and Lighted Security System
No Deposit
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Y&M AIRCONDITIONING 852-1516 or 726-3768
Licensed & Insured Commercial/Residential Heating & Cooling Refrigerated Air Heat Pumps Duct Work Appliances
VISA & MasterCard
TX Lic.#TACLA021147E
Free Estimates on New Installations

County celebrates passage of amendments, makes preparation for upcoming election

By Marjorie F. Graham
Courier Staff Writer

EL PASO COUNTY — Work on the new voting precincts in El Paso County and preparation for next year's primary election can proceed just as soon as disputes bearing upon redistricting are resolved in the courts.

County Elections Administrator Helen Jamison is urging voters to save their old and new cards for the next two years to avoid confusion.

She told Commissioners Court that everything in the computers will have to be changed and proofread before the new orange voting certificates can

be mailed to registered voters.

She also said that, because voting precinct numbers from 10 years ago are scattered all over the County, they have to be renumbered for more consistency in each area.

At last week's meeting, the court greeted with enthusiasm the passage in the Nov. 6 election of Propositions 8 and 13, which it had endorsed with resolutions. Specific projects in El Paso County which stand to benefit from the outcome are Hueco Tanks State Historical Park and El Paso State Center for mentally retarded.

Some \$140,000 is earmarked for the former to renovate campground restrooms and \$370,000 will be re-

ceived to replace the roof and to install therapeutic equipment in the residential building of the center.

Looking to the primary election, there will be a familiar name missing from the ballot. Hector Enriquez, county clerk for the past 22 years, announced that he will not seek a seventh term for reasons of health in his family.

He pointed with pride to national and state recognition of his cost-efficient operation of the office, saying that he has held expenses down to within \$5,000 and has reduced the number of personnel from 43 to 42 during that entire period.

Enriquez has been a consistent advocate of more consolidation of City

and County services and, within the County, he hopes the same will occur eventually.

"Why do the County, the Sheriff's Department and Thomason General Hospital each need its own personnel department?" he asked.

In other action, the court gave tentative approval to an 80-lot subdivision planned by Developer Tedd Richardson for just west of San Elizario off Socorro Road.

On the drawing board are homes costing \$50,000 to \$70,000 each with the amenities mandated by the Texas Legislature in 1997 as regards affordable rural housing.

Richardson's specifications call for water and sewer service, paved

streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, street lights, fire hydrants and a park.

In that same regard, the Colonias Program of Texas A&M University reported that 56 residents in Sparks, Socorro, and Montana Vista are participating in the English Conversation Project which it has initiated, and that, in the same communities, 38 young people have been recruited to develop its youth councils.

In other outreach activity, the university has referred 121 residents for workforce training information and had 327 residents participating in the "Walk El Paso" program, along with 301 others learning to cook traditional foods with more attention to health.

San Elizario breaks ground on new central administration facility



OPENING ACT — The San Elizario board of trustees and Superintendent Mike Quatrini (far left) become the initial earth-movers where they will eventually enjoy new office space.

By Phillip Cortez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — It was an event the San Elizario Independent School District has experienced many times over the past few years, but when there's growth, more space is needed. That's why new ground was broken on Nov. 7 commemorating the new central administration building. The building is scheduled to be completed in July of 2002.

"We believe that the construction of this building will allow all district departments and instructional programs,

which are now separated, to come together to provide a cohesiveness and consistency in our efforts to serve our students, schools, and community," said Mike Quatrini, Superintendent of the San Elizario ISD.

Growth has been the buzzword for the school district, located west of Fabens and south of Clint. Over the past 10 years, a primary school, two elementary schools, an alternative campus and a high school with a vocational wing has been built here. The new 18,959-square-foot administration building will be located at 1050 Chicken Ranch Road, catty-corner to newly dedicated Borrego Elementary School.

Bonilla

From Page 2

Coast Guard post was flying through a substance apparently already in the air. The pilot of the plane just happened to be flying overhead and contacted authorities himself the next day.

These are just a few examples of the urban legends that are circulating across the country and the world. It's tough to sort out truth and conspiracy when you receive an email that has been forwarded multiple times. But I'd like to remind you that in many instances, there's no truth or obvious threat. You should feel confident that

if there is a serious threat upon our nation, our law enforcement agencies are doing their job and taking care of our welfare. As we've seen in weeks past, they are keeping us informed every step of the way.

The best thing we can do right now is trust those in charge and not get caught up in what amounts to a vicious rumor.

I'm thankful to report that not all of these urban legends are based on fear and anxiety. My final example is another story that has been passed along by email. It tells of the incredible generosity that was seen in a small town in Newfoundland. When American airspace was closed after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the town of Gander

played host to thousands of airline passengers stranded there. A total of 240 flights were rerouted to Canada, and 39 of those flights ended up in Gander. The townspeople of Gander came through amazingly in the crisis. They provided beds and living accommodations in the town schools, planned tours for the stranded passengers, cooked dinners and kept restaurants open to feed hungry mouths.

This story reminds us of the goodness and kindness that exists in the human spirit. It reminds us that good does conquer evil. It reminds us that we will prevail, we will move forward and we will be stronger for it. God Bless each of you. And may God continue to bless America!

Village of Vinton PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 19, 2000 during the Planning Commission meeting at Vinton Village Hall, 436 Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments on the following:

- 1) Consider and Approve Request for Special Permit to Allow Construction of a Non-Hazardous Oil Reclaiming and Waste Water Evaporation Plant on Valley Chile Road.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Village Clerk of the Village of Vinton.

IRMA RODRIGUEZ
Village Clerk

WTCC: 11/15/01

Village of Vinton PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 7:00 p.m. during the Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, November 20, 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 Adopting a Budget for the Fiscal Year of January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002, 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: 11/15/01

Thanksgiving Feast

Thursday, November 22 • 11^{AM} to 10^{PM}

Roast Turkey • Glazed Ham • Pot Roast
Meat Loaf • Fried Chicken • Mashed Potatoes
Gravy • Cornbread Dressing • Candied Yams
Corn on the Cob • Green Beans • Cranberry Sauce
Hot Bread • Soup and Salad Bar • Pumpkin Pie

Adults \$8⁹⁹ • Children \$4⁹⁹

Happy Thanksgiving

Open 24 hours — Full family menus plus spectacular buffet and salad bar. I-10 at Horizon Blvd., 859-1906.

Stopping Centers
The Quality Difference

Baseball is forgetting the fans and smaller competitors

By **Steve Escajeda**
Special to the Courier

When I was a kid growing up in the late '60s and early '70s, baseball was king. It was still considered the national pastime and believe it or not the NFL was jealous of baseball's popularity.

Of course, this was before the designated hitter, inter-league play and the "franchise" relief pitcher.

Another thing that was different in those days was the fact that there were only 24 teams. The National League and American League consisted of 12 teams each. Six teams in the Western Division and six teams in the Eastern Division.

So simple that even Yogi Berra could explain it.

But since then the league has expanded to 30 teams and six divisions and a wild card play-off system that includes twice the number of teams that it used to.

The other thing that expansion has done has watered down the league. Too many players are playing in the majors that are no better than Diablos' quality. Too many sub-par teams are

in the league and their lack of attendance makes it impossible for them to compete with the Yankees and Diamondbacks of the world.

Well, this week baseball decided to do something about the problem. It decided to get rid of two teams. Major League Baseball has a cute little word called "contraction" and that means cutting the league down to 28 teams in an attempt to cut out the fat.

Good move by baseball right? *Wrong!*

How in the heck is getting rid of two teams going to make things any better as long as baseball continues to operate in the same manner.

With no profit sharing and total free agency, all small-market teams will find it impossible to put a team on the field that has a chance to win it all or even come close.

I mean let's face it, how many of you thought that the Montreal Expos, Kansas City Royals, Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Florida Marlins, Pittsburgh Pirates, Milwaukee Brewers, Detroit Tigers or Anaheim Angels has any chance at all to make the playoffs.

All you're going to have is the same problems among 28 teams instead of 30. What baseball will accomplish is provide even less competition for the "rich" teams by eliminating two

"poor" teams.

If you want to save baseball you have to change the system so the little guy can compete. Hey, I'm no socialist but baseball will continue to price their fans out of the game the way things are going.

And though they often forget it, baseball is nothing without the fans.

Threatening e-mail

Still in the shadow of the events of Sept. 11, you would think that any thinking individual would think twice before even thinking about making a dangerous threat — you think?

The problem is some people just don't.

The intellectually-challenged sports figure of the week is Murray State basketball player Jamar Avant.

Avant, who amazingly didn't play on the team last season for academic reasons, was arrested this week for making a bomb threat through the e-mail.

Making a bomb threat through the e-mail? Hasn't he been watching TV? How unmistakably stupid does one have to be to pull a stunt like that one at this time in history?

Oh yeah, he's twice as stupid — he made

two bomb threats.

This guy is so smart and cunning that he made the threats at the university's campus last Monday and was arrested on Tuesday.

Let's just say that this guy is as elusive as he is smart.

Tennis tantrum

Did you happen to hear about the accusation that was made against the U.S. by Belgium Federation Cup team captain Ivo Van Aken?

Seems Van Aken is questioning our patriotism. Well, at least he questioned the motives of the U.S. Federation Cup team.

He said that the U.S. skipped this week's matches, not because of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks like they claimed, but because the team didn't want to play on clay.

The Americans are afraid of playing on clay?

Well, let's take a look at the United States' possible lineup for the tournament: Venus Williams, Jennifer Capriati, Serena Williams, Lindsay Davenport and Monica Seles — oh yeah, the U.S. is just shaking in their bloomers.

I think Van Aken should examine what it means to be patriotic — and then have his head examined.

Water

From Page 1

community members. Present at the event were County Commissioner Miguel Teran, Dolores Hernandez of the Lower Valley Water District, Jesus Hernandez from the City of Socorro and Carl McElhaney from the office of U.S. Representative Silvestre Reyes.

It was Reyes' assistant, Sal Payan, who advised the Panorama community leaders to seek help from EPISO, Trujillo said.

Panorama citizens felt community pride and expressed their appreciation.

"Some of us didn't know how to operate some of the tools we used, but we tried and accomplished what we wanted, and we thank God for that," Panorama leader Carlos Ortiz said. "It was worth it for us and for this *colonia*. I am thankful for accomplishing the mission that every one of us had. I cannot be as proud as I am right now for our people in this place because of their perseverance."

Panorama began as a community in 1996 without the services of water, electricity and gas. Citizens got

their water from water dispensing machines in the city.

"We began to ask for these services, and we were rejected each time for many reasons. Maybe we weren't going to the right places or the right persons," EPISO member and Panorama resident Rosita Calderon said. "We kept striving, and uniting as a community, we joined EPISO, who gave us hope in obtaining these services. They were our guide in making our dreams come true in this community."

EPISO is not done yet as it hopes to help build more communities, which includes Panorama.

"The people that serve in this community were united from the beginning and never gave up. They dug the trenches and worked very hard from the beginning," Trujillo said. "If they keep working, then they will get more in the future."

Commissioner Teran was equally complimentary. "I congratulate you as a community because you all came together for your community and worked together. You did something that many thought it couldn't be done, and not because it could not be done. Everything is possible when the community unites," he said.



— Photos by Yuri Soto

UNITED WE GET WATER — These Panorama Village residents learned how to gain access to community water under the tutelage of EPISO, organizers said. They were joined in celebration by area dignitaries.

King Super Crossword

DRIVEN TO EXTREMES ACROSS

1 Go (for)

4 Rock's - Jovi

7 Prettify a poodle

11 Tom or tabby

14 Baja bite

18 Opera prog.

19 Psychic Geller

20 _ -de-camp

21 Ben _ -Wan Kenobi

22 Eager

23 Speaker of remark at 30 Across

26 Aries animal

27 Josip Broz

28 Synthetic fiber

29 Wallach of "The Deep"

30 Start of a remark by 23 Across

33 Actress Barbara

35 Border on

38 Throne and pew

39 "Saint Joan" monogram

41 Tasty tuber

43 Drilling site?

45 "It _ Be You" ('24 song)

49 Part 2 of remark

55 Fight site

56 Nabokov novel

57 "I told you so!"

58 TV's " _ for Adventure"

59 Show one's feelings

60 One of the Marches

62 109 Across abbr.

64 Arles assent

65 Ray

67 "Fatha" Hines

70 Part of CPA

73 Thompson or Salonga

74 Part 3 of remark

79 Advanced deg.

82 Blyton or Bagnold

83 Tender

84 Fell

87 O'Hare info

88 Rita of "Klute"

90 Baseball's Bucky

93 Freeze

95 Beautiful butterfly

99 Genesis vessel

102 "Da _ Ron Ron" ('63 hit)

103 "Kol -"

104 Part 4 of remark

108 "Lovegirl" singer Marie

109 Weight Watchers fixture

110 Bear lair

111 Burro

112 Strep's kin

114 List ender

116 Move like a mouse

119 Part 5 of remark

124 You can retire on it

126 Toad features

129 Madame Bovary

130 " _ pro nobis"

131 End of remark

135 Row

136 Garage supply

137 Auctioneer's cry

138 Hunan pan

139 _ -Magnon

140 Disoriented

141 Welcome item?

142 Duel tool

143 Society column word

144 Boar's beloved

DOWN

1 Gymnast Korbut

2 Wharf

3 Butcher's offering

4 Army brass?

5 Trams transport it

6 Likable

7 West Indian

8 " _ Abner"

9 Name in Ugandan politics

10 Hang in the balance

11 Angel on horseback

12 Islamic garment

13 Hutton and Dalton

14 "Little Man _ " ('91 film)

15 Tel _

16 Quote an expert

17 Bouquet

24 Chianti color

25 Pie _

31 Sanford of "The Jeffersons"

32 Grammarian's concern

34 Comic Louis

36 Thurman of "The Avengers"

37 "Sixteen _ " ('55 song)

39 Growl

40 Anesthetizes an audience

42 "Pequod" captain

44 Caustic substance

46 '49 Edmond O'Brien film

47 Alpine area

48 Perfectly timed

50 Pizarro's victims

51 Livestock

52 Moisten the marigolds

53 " _ Inferno" ('78 hit)

54 Karmann _ (Volkswagen model)

61 Beaver and beret

63 Sound like a hound

66 Forever and a day

68 Pi follower

69 Cooking fat

71 Bossy's chew

72 Like hard work

75 British isle

76 Author LeShan

77 Indigent

78 Word form for "community"

79 _ Cass

80 Facade

81 Palmer, to pals

85 Branch of medicine

86 Goes bad

89 "Man of La _"

91 Pasta

92 Pitch

94 Violin parts

96 Citrus cooler

97 Washer cycle

98 Theater feature

100 Nutritional abbr.

101 Cabbage cousin

105 Paving material

106 Badminton divider

107 Final point

113 Lofty spaces

115 Put up with

117 Rouse

118 Made tracks

119 Chalky cheese

120 Baudelaire's bud-dies

121 "Peter Pan" pirate

122 Mitchell homestead

123 AMEX rival

125 Time to crow?

127 Starch source

128 Flat-bottomed boat

132 "Alley _"

133 Diminutive suffix

134 Drabowsky or Berg

Answer Page 7

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10		11	12	13		14	15	16	17
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Snakes alive!

by Don Flood

Public education today faces many challenges, with the most difficult, of course, being Britney Spears. Schools blame pop tart Britney for making it harder to enforce dress codes.

It's not what she wears that poses a problem. It's what she doesn't wear — clothes mainly.

For example, on a recent awards show, Britney Spears showed up wearing, basically, a live snake.

Since there are so many awards shows, it could be that I am mistaken. It's entirely possible that the snake was being honored and that it happened to be wearing Britney Spears.

Also, it would be a good thing for the Academy Awards show if all Oscar winners would be required to wear boa constrictors. That way, acceptance speeches would be limited to time required for the snake to crush the star's windpipe.

But I digress, which is part of my plan.

Naturally, kids watch Britney and think: Wow, it sure would be cool to wear a live snake to school!

This kind of thing puts Mom in a tizzy because 1) she's not sure that wearing live snakes to school is appropriate; and 2) often as not, there are no clean, live snakes hanging in the closet.

Snakes pose a problem for schools too, because despite all the tightening up of dress codes in recent years, many school boards have not gotten around to updating the rules on the wearing of snakes and other animals!

The driver's ed teacher could show up wearing a live goat for all the rules say about it.

While clear guidelines are important, some things

must be decided on a case-by-case basis.

A girl with a bare midriff, for instance, might be told to go home, while a boy with a backward baseball cap might be taken out back and beheaded.

But the reason dress codes are so important is that someday these young adults are going to be joining the work force and, let me tell you, it's a different world out there.

In the media job world, for example, of which I am a proud member, you can't just show up for work with your underwear creeping up from beneath your low-slung pants.

No, sir! More and more, you are required to be naked!

It's true!

You've probably heard about the Russian newscaster, who reports the news while taking off her clothes. (Her insightful grain-production reports, which take place near the end of the program, are especially popular.)

Then there's naked.news.com, "the program with nothing to hide."

If present trends continue, say media experts, fully 325 percent of the media will be working naked, with the hoped-for exception of Rush Limbaugh.

The new undress code has even hit the World of Literature.

The latest thing on the Web is the Naked Novelist. (Those with an avid interest in literature should visit nakednovelist.com.)

Can the Unclothed Columnist be far behind?

Yes, I hereby guarantee my readers that I will not write this column while naked.

I will be wearing a snake.

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Reyes

From Page 3

been a priority in my office. My staff and I have taken pride in the rate of response we produce for constituents. Our office receives close to 400 constituent concerns per week and the majority of them receive responses within two weeks. This correspondence is the most efficient way for me to know the opinions of the people of El Paso, opinions that ultimately lead to my decisions when voting on legislation. Unfortunately, the letters that some of you have sent to my office may not reach me anytime soon, if at all. In addition, my office has been unable to respond to many of your letters since we were not allowed into our office for 18 days. I ask for your patience as we work hard to catch up and respond to your letters, e-mails and faxes.

I wish to thank all El Pasoans for being patient with the situation our government is facing. On Sept. 11 we witnessed and suffered horrific acts of terrorism against America. It will take time for the nation to heal, but we will recover. Not only is our nation fighting a war at home, we are also fighting a war half a world away from home.

This week is National Veterans Awareness Week. It is important to take the time to pause and remember the brave men and women who have placed their lives on the line in defense of the land, the principles, and the citizens that make this great country what it is. It is in defense of the principles upon which our nation's liberties depend that service members become honored veterans, whose

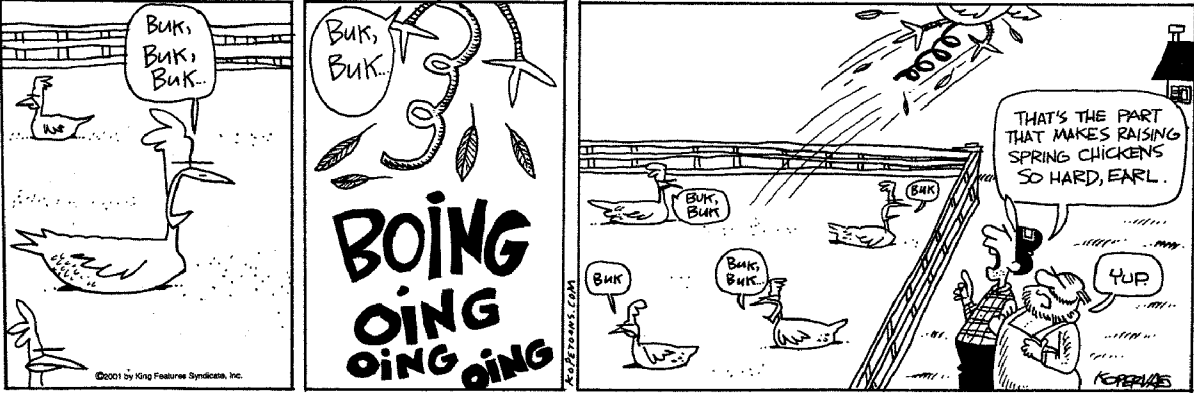
sacrifices are recognized as the ultimate price of freedom. Our country has witnessed and participated in devastating wars and has most recently been the victim of unprecedented violent acts of terrorism. The one constant that has remained throughout the years has been the resolve of our country in the face of difficult and uncertain times. That resolve remains strong. And our dedication and support of our troops now abroad will be the same as it was for the over 40 million soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who came before them in defense of their country. It is my privilege to honor our nation's veterans not only on Veterans Day, but also throughout National Veterans Awareness Week.

This week we honor all veterans, those who have passed, and those who are living. There are currently more than 25 million living veterans who served this country during both times of peace and war. Over 80,000 of our nation's veterans reside in our region. These men and women fought in wars, defended a country and the principles for which it stands, and proudly served for the betterment of America and all Americans.

We should all not only focus our thoughts on those who have served our country in the past, but also on the men and women who are currently serving our country, fighting to defend our nation. They will continue to fight to protect our country and ensure that the events of Sept. 11 never happen again. It is my hope that we remember to reflect upon the sacrifices of all those who have and will continue to serve in uniform. They have left behind a legacy of heroism and courage and will never be forgotten by the generations they protected.

Comix

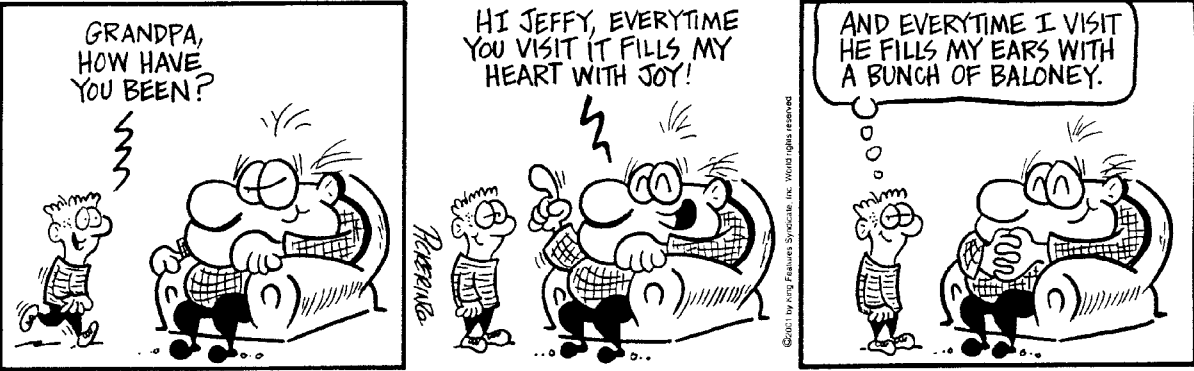
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



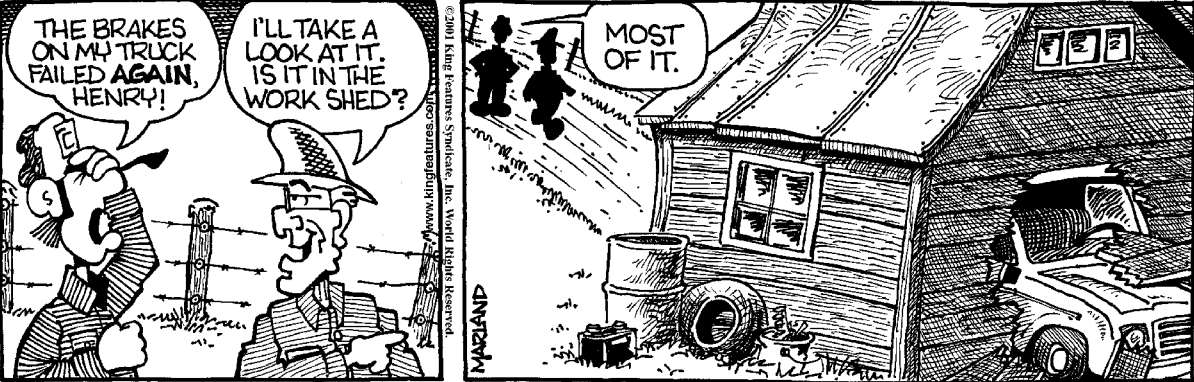
GOT A LIFE By Terri Davis



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



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WEST TEXAS COUNTY
COURIER

Newspapers work!

Write stuff

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the People of Socorro for their support of the new Home Rule Charter for the City of Socorro. I also want to especially thank the people who worked hard to promote the Charter, including the Nevarez brothers, the Charter Commission members and their families, and anybody that I may have left out and, of course, Wholesale Lumber for their generous donations.

This marks the beginning of a new start for the City of Socorro, Texas!

Sam Brewster
Socorro Councilman

Briefs

From Page 1

residents of Tornilla, where she graduated from high school.

■ Roxanne M. Vilanova of Clint is among the students participating in St. Lawrence University's America Reads project, tutoring children to assist them in improving their reading skills. She is currently a sophomore at St. Lawrence, in Canton, New York.

■ Frank Macias Elementary

School will host a Fall Festival on Nov. 3, 2001 at the school, 12595 Darrington, from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There will be plenty of game booths, food booths and prizes. Money raised will benefit the PTO for playground equipment. For information call Ms. Granados at 852-7143.

■ At Carroll T. Welch Middle School in the Clint Independent School District, a journey is unfolding for 10 creative students who are members of Journey's, a club where students meet weekly to write personal reflections about various topics that affect their lives

and the lives of others. When the Sept. 11 tragedy occurred, the students had experienced emotions, feelings, and questions they wanted to write about. At the Sept. 19 meeting, the students openly discussed how the tragedy had affected them. Eighth grade student Erica Alejo wrote and discussed that her uncle, who is a student at Columbia University, had a job interview on Sept. 11 in a building directly across from the World Trade Center. However, her uncle had a bad feeling about the interview, so he cancelled it. Mrs. Sylvia Apodaca, school librarian, sponsors the club which meets ev-





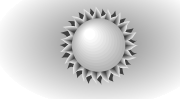
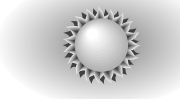
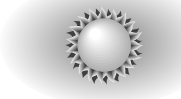
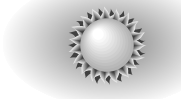
ery Wednesday at 7:15 a.m. in the library.

■ Law enforcement are seeking information on a robbery that took place Oct. 29 at the Diamond Shamrock at 230 S. Americas Ave. The subject took an undetermined amount of money and fled in an unidentified vehicle. He is described as being about 17 years old, five feet, four inches tall, about 120 pounds, clean shaven with combed-back black hair. Information leading to an arrest could be worth a reward of \$1,000 from Crime Stoppers and callers can remain anonymous at 566-8477.

WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
							
Cloudy with a shower possible.	A shower possible; considerably cloudy.	It may shower early, then cloudy.	Bright and sunny.	Sunny.	Abundant sunshine.	Sunny.	Abundant sunshine.
▲ 62°	▼ 40°	▲ 62° ▼ 38°	▲ 66° ▼ 40°	▲ 66° ▼ 42°	▲ 68° ▼ 40°	▲ 66° ▼ 42°	▲ 70° ▼ 42°

UV INDEX

Statistics for noon.

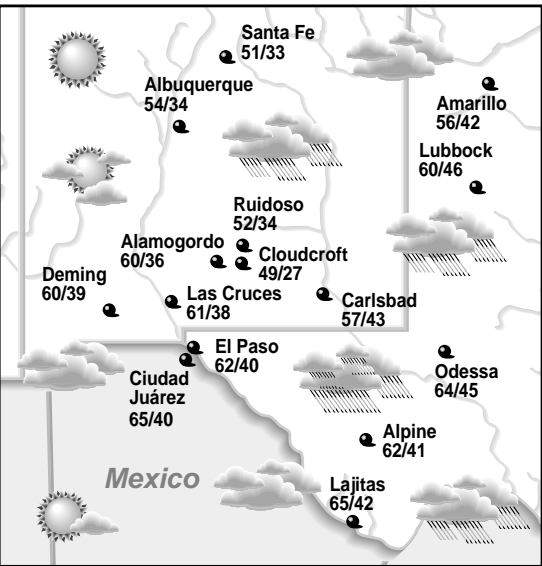
The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Thursday	1	Minimal
Friday	2	Minimal
Saturday	4	Low
Sunday	4	Low
Monday	4	Low
Tuesday	4	Low
Wednesday	4	Low

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	62	40
Canutillo	62	41
Clint	61	41
E. Montana	62	40
Fabens	60	41
Horizon	63	41
San Elizario	61	38
Socorro	61	39
Tornillo	60	40
Vinton	63	41

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	54/34/c	56/36/pc	58/34/pc	58/34/pc	60/32/s
Atlanta	68/48/pc	70/48/s	68/48/s	68/48/s	67/48/s
Atlantic City	64/48/s	68/48/pc	64/44/s	66/46/s	64/48/pc
Austin/San Antonio	71/55/sh	71/55/sh	72/53/sh	70/54/sh	73/51/pc
Baltimore	66/44/s	68/44/s	64/42/s	66/42/s	66/46/pc
Boston	62/46/pc	62/40/pc	58/36/s	54/40/pc	54/42/s
Chicago	64/48/pc	64/46/pc	64/44/pc	64/42/pc	50/28/sh
Dallas/Ft. Worth	70/56/sh	68/56/sh	70/54/sh	72/51/sh	69/49/pc
Denver	64/32/pc	60/34/pc	62/32/pc	56/28/pc	54/24/s
Flagstaff	52/24/s	52/23/s	53/24/s	55/25/s	56/29/s
Houston	76/58/sh	76/52/c	74/52/sh	71/53/s	74/49/pc
Kansas City	70/46/pc	68/46/s	66/44/s	56/38/c	56/42/pc
Las Vegas	69/45/s	69/48/s	69/48/s	67/45/pc	69/52/pc
Miami	82/68/pc	82/68/pc	82/68/pc	82/66/pc	80/65/c
Minneapolis	64/46/pc	62/44/pc	62/42/pc	54/38/sh	48/26/sh
New Orleans	74/57/pc	74/54/s	74/54/s	72/54/s	70/49/s
New York City	64/52/s	64/48/pc	60/46/s	62/48/s	64/50/pc
Philadelphia	66/48/s	68/48/pc	64/44/s	66/46/s	66/48/pc
Phoenix	78/54/s	78/54/s	80/52/pc	78/52/s	78/52/s
Portland	56/46/r	54/44/pc	52/46/pc	52/46/pc	52/48/r
San Francisco	66/54/pc	63/52/c	63/52/pc	66/52/pc	66/54/pc
Seattle	56/44/c	52/44/c	50/42/pc	50/44/pc	54/46/r
Tucson	70/44/s	72/46/s	74/46/pc	72/44/pc	74/46/s
Washington, DC	68/48/s	68/46/s	66/46/s	68/48/s	68/50/pc

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

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