

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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

MARCH 28, 2002

NEWSBRIEFS

Legislators, leaders to speak on aging

State Sen. Eliot Shapleigh and State Rep. Manny Najera along with Horizon City Mayor Pat Randleel and Jetta Roberts of the Silver-Haired Legislature are among the political representatives to speak on legislative initiatives regarding retirement and elder issues during a free seminar on Tuesday, April 2. The event will begin with refreshments and resource offering at 6:30 p.m. with a presentation from 7-8:30 p.m., followed by a question and answer period. The session, free to the public, is at the Church of the Incarnation, 15000 Darrington Rd. For information call 852-4171.

Drug trucks stuck

Border Patrol agents from the Ft. Hancock station seized over 2,400 pounds of marijuana and two late model trucks when the vehicles became stuck in the sand while carrying illegal drugs into the U.S. from Mexico. A 2002 Chevrolet Avalanche and a 1999 Chevrolet truck were discovered at about 10 p.m. on Friday, March 22 after agents were alerted to activity in an area known for drug smuggling. They subsequently located the vehicles about 29 miles from the Ft. Hancock Port of Entry, abandoned by their drivers who fled back across the border. The vehicles contained bundles of marijuana later determined to have a street value of about \$1.9 million.

In other news

■ The public is invited to the dress rehearsal of the El Paso Sungold Chorus (Sweet Adelines) on Monday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the new Vinton Fire Station, 510 Vinton Rd. The barbershop show chorus will perform the songs they will sing in their upcoming regional competition in Phoenix on April 20. They will also perform several songs from their current repertoire of popular and patriotic music. Admission is free. This group is the only Texas chorus in their Region 21 which encompasses all of New Mexico and Arizona and much of Southern California. The chorus is at a new westside rehearsal site to accommodate its Las Cruces and west El Paso members. These Sweet Adelines sing with the support of the El Paso Arts Resources Department and the Texas Commission for the Arts. For more information please call 877-5015.

■ Rio Vista Park in Socorro will bloom with Lions and children on Sunday, March 31 during the annual Socorro Lions Club Easter egg hunt at 2 p.m. Children ages one to 10 are invited. Call Irma S. Sanchez at 858-1514 for details.

■ Boys and girls aged 9-12 years in the Horizon City area can sign up for Little League on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Horizon Vista Food Store, 121 Eastlake Drive, March 30 through April 14 — except for Sunday, March 31. This League is sanctioned through Little League, Inc. and includes a minimum 12-game season. Registration

See BRIEFS, Page 4

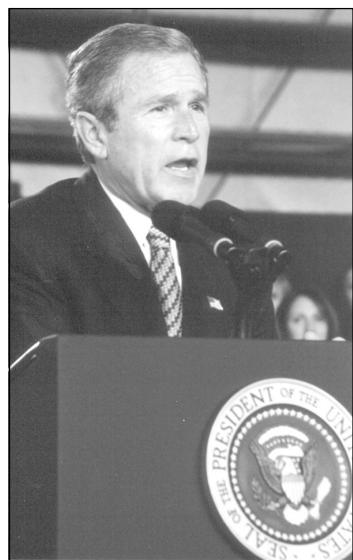
An unusual child is one who asks his parents questions they can answer.

— Quips and Quotes

President recognizes Girl Scout Volunteer during El Paso visit and calls on all Americans to ‘do good’

By Keri Moe
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — “It wasn’t like I expected, like you don’t know if it’s gonna happen, but when I saw the President, I was excited,” said seven-year-old Brownie Girl Scout, Jasmine Galindo.



President George W. Bush

“When he talked about Girl Scouts, it made us feel famous.” Galindo, like many other Girl Scouts who saw President Bush on his March 21 visit to El Paso, was thrilled that the leader took time in his speech to mention Girl Scouts. After talking about his border policies and the war on terrorism, he discussed the importance of how Americans can make a difference by doing some good to help one another.

“Love a neighbor just like you’d like to be loved yourself. Reach out to somebody in need. Make sure somebody who’s hungry has food; somebody who needs love has love; somebody who needs to be taught how to read is taught to read. You see, it’s the gathering momentum of millions of acts of kindness that will define this nation and allow us to stand squarely in the face of evil.” Bush said.

To illustrate his example of love, kindness and generosity he spoke about Rosario “Chayo” Piedra, a Girl Scout volunteer from Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande. Piedra, who has been a Leader for nearly a decade, has more than 35 girls in her mixed-age level troop in

South El Paso.

“Today, I had the honor of meeting Rosario Piedra,” Bush said. “She was there because Rosario is the kind of person I’m talking about. She takes her obligation as a U.S. citizen very seriously. She knows there’s something more to life than just serving yourself. She’s in charge of Girl Scout troops teaching young girls values that will stay with them for the rest of their life. She works after-school programs to help children that need a little extra help. It is this kind of citizen that makes our country unique and different.”

Character, conduct and community service are core qualities of Girl Scouting. The fact that the President acknowledged a fellow Girl Scout and talked about the importance of community service sent an important message to all the Girl Scouts in the audience.

“I liked the President’s speech because he talked about making the border a better place and helping other people like we do in Girl Scouts,” Amber Gonzalez, an eight year-old Brownie, said. “It made me feel proud.”

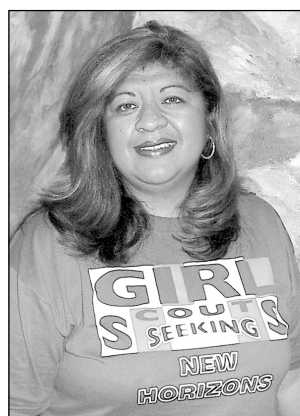
Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande was fortunate to send more than 100 Girl Scouts to see President Bush, who was accompanied by First Lady Laura Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell, National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge, Texas Gov. Rick Perry, U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla, and others as he addressed an enthusiastic crowd before heading to Mexico and Latin America.

Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande Executive Director Deborah A. Zuloaga also attended the President’s visit held at a NASA hangar near the El Paso International Airport. She says that it is opportunities like these that make a difference in girls’ lives.

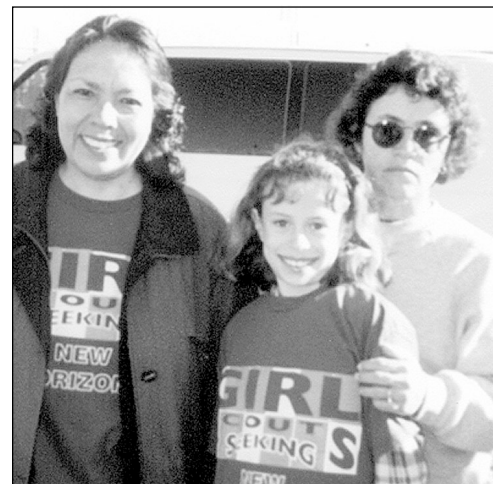
“Our Girl Scouts were able to participate in an important moment in history and because of these kinds of opportunities we are able to shape the leaders of tomorrow,” Zuloaga said. “Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande has many out-

standing volunteers, like Rosario Piedra, who have dedicated themselves to helping girls and serving as strong role models. With the help of caring adults, Girl Scouts builds strong girls, one at a time.”

Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande is a charter of Girl Scouts of the USA, the world’s pre-eminent organization for girls, with a membership of more than 3.7 million girls and adults. Girl Scouting helps cultivate values, social conscience and self-esteem in young girls, while also teaching them critical life skills that will enable them to succeed as adults. In Girl Scouting — and its special girl-only environment — girls discover the fun, friendship and power of girls together. More than 50 million girls have grown up into confident and strong women since Girl Scouts of the USA was founded 90 years ago.



Rosario Piedra



— Photo by Jacqueline Gonzalez

From left, Troop Leader, Angie Donohoe with Girl Scout Mary June and Girl Scout Volunteer Carmen Cencich. “This was a once in a lifetime opportunity. Hearing the President speak about Girl Scouts impacted me as a Girl Scout volunteer—it is an inspiration,” Angie Donohoe, Leader Troop #788 said.

Combined efforts by DPS, DEA and Air National Guard help eradicate pot growth

AUSTIN — More than 760,000 marijuana plants growing in Texas were eradicated in 2001 by Texas Department of Public Safety officers, the Texas Air National Guard, the Drug Enforcement Administration and local law enforcement agencies, according to a recent release from the DPS.

Most plants were growing wild, but 48,700 others were cultivated outdoors or indoors by marijuana traffickers. DPS investigations into marijuana cultivation — indoor and outdoor — resulted in the arrests of 160 people and the seizure of 77 firearms.

The domestic marijuana eradication (DME) program has operated in Texas since 1987. In 2000, more than 415,700 marijuana plants were eradicated, 71 people were arrested and 53 weapons were seized.

“Domestic marijuana eradication

by the DPS, the Air National Guard, local law enforcement agencies and the DEA has helped make Texas a safer place,” said Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr., director of the DPS. “This is a program that shows definite, immediate results. Many burglaries and other crimes are directly related to drugs and drug use.”

The DEA provides operational, financial and technical assistance to the program.

DPS Narcotics officers work with the Texas Air National Guard and DPS Aircraft, which support the ground efforts by providing aerial reconnaissance. Although local law enforcement agencies often provide information about possible marijuana grows, some plots are located by flying over them.

Officers, in 2001, found fairly

See ERADICATE, Page 6

Ground breaking this week in Horizon City for Region 19 Head Start Facility

HORIZON CITY — The newest of Region 19’s Head Start Centers will soon become reality in Horizon City, following groundbreaking ceremonies on Thursday, March 28 at 12583 Darrington Road.

The new pre-school center will bear the name of Thomason Hospital longtime CEO, Pete Duarte, who has been an active force to improve border health as he held oversight of the largest public hospital located on the U.S./Mexico border.

The Pete Duarte Head Start and Child Wellness Center is a collaborative effort between Region 19, the Clint Independent School District and Texas Tech.

The Horizon Center will meet the growing need for a pre-school center in the Horizon area, designed to accommodate more than 250 children in 12 classrooms with morning and afternoon sessions and a full-day session as well.

The facility will have a library and a wellness center to meet the medical needs of students.

“We have found that the population in this community will bring forth a lot of families with children that will need the services a Head Start program provides,” said Blanca Enriquez, Region 19 Head Start Executive Director. “Currently there are no facilities that provide a good, quality child development programs in this area.”

Region 19 has eight Head Start Centers in the east county area including East Montana and Sparks.

The Region 19 ESC Head Start is a federally funded, non-profit program that serves low-income children from birth to age 5, pregnant women and their families in El Paso and Hudspeth Counties.

A broad range of issues are addressed by the centers, to include education, health, transportation, nutrition, disabilities, mental health and family services.



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

It's all in your head

If you're a criminal, you're a criminal.

If you're not, you're not.

Adult human beings can change the way they live their lives but it's not because they think they are fixing to get their hands slapped. That only works with little tikes.

Change in human behavior all depends on what takes place in the inches-wide space enclosed by a person's cranium.

Consider the success rate of things like halfway houses and electronic "bracelets" used to monitor "transitional" criminals who are being "introduced" back into the community.

Let's take a closer look at these descriptions.

"Bracelet" usually brings to mind something pretty and decorative. "Transitional" indicates something that is in the process of change from one state to another. "Introduce" means to bring someone into acquaintance with something they didn't know before.

There's nothing decorative or pretty about electronic monitoring devices. Criminals are not strangers to the community they violated before being taken out of circulation. And if these folks are ready to be productive members of society, they are no longer in transition.

Either they are or they're not.

Government statistics released March 17 in the United Kingdom were a little revealing. British prisoners released from jail early and tagged electronically committed almost 900 crimes, including rapes and assaults during the first three years of the scheme.

The government introduced elec-

tronic tagging in January of 1999 in an effort to control Britain's soaring jail population. Since then, almost 43,000 offenders have taken part in the program where prisoners serving sentences of less than four years can be released up to two months early — but they have to carry the electronic tagging device for the rest of their sentence.

Tagged prisoners are supposed to stick to a curfew, spending up to 12 hours a day at home. The tag — about the size of a diver's watch and worn around the ankle — sends signals to a monitoring unit installed in the offender's home.

Well, good old El Paso County may be a world away from London, but I'm acquainted with at least one case where a fellow living in San Elizario was tagged electronically as part of his probation but violated his "house arrest" repeatedly and was finally picked up while committing a very serious offense.

We, as a society, are far too prone to making excuses, looking the other way, and smoothing over the simple fact that a criminal is going to commit crimes. Unless something has changed in his head, nothing has changed at all.

The Reuters news article in which the UK statistics are quoted said a Home Office spokeswoman described the home detention scheme as very successful and said the crimes involved only two percent of tagged offenders. She called it "a valuable tool for managing the transition between custody and the community."

But London metropolitan police officer, Norman Brennan, a director of the Victims of Crime Trust, doesn't buy that. He said that victims of



crimes committed by tagged offenders should take legal action against the government.

"This system is crazy, we are letting convicted criminals out to cause mayhem," the Reuters story quotes Brennan.

"Maybe so.

We pretended that Osama Bin Laden and Saddam Hussein weren't any real threat either — as long as they were monitored.

WEST TEXAS COUNTY
COURIER

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

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

Your truck, your choice

A mother leans into the backseat of her SUV. She buckles the seatbelt around her oldest daughter and adjusts the car seat for the baby. Finally she climbs into the drivers seat. Confidently, she begins to head out of the driveway and off to soccer practice. She prefers the sturdier SUV to a smaller vehicle that might not protect her children as well in a crash. This mother is confident. She knows that her children are protected and safe in the vehicle she drives.

Last week we narrowly escaped having this right taken away. The right to choose safety and comfort in a vehicle came under close fire. You see, some people in Washington believe the government has the right to decide what type of car you drive. I am referring to an attempt by the Senate to raise corporate average fuel economy standards (CAFÉ) in vehicles.

We are all interested in preserving our environment and decreasing our dependence on foreign fuel. But these measures should not come at the expense of jobs and lives. Now more than ever, we should be watching over American jobs and the American economy. Raising CAFÉ standards would do more harm than it's proponents care to admit.

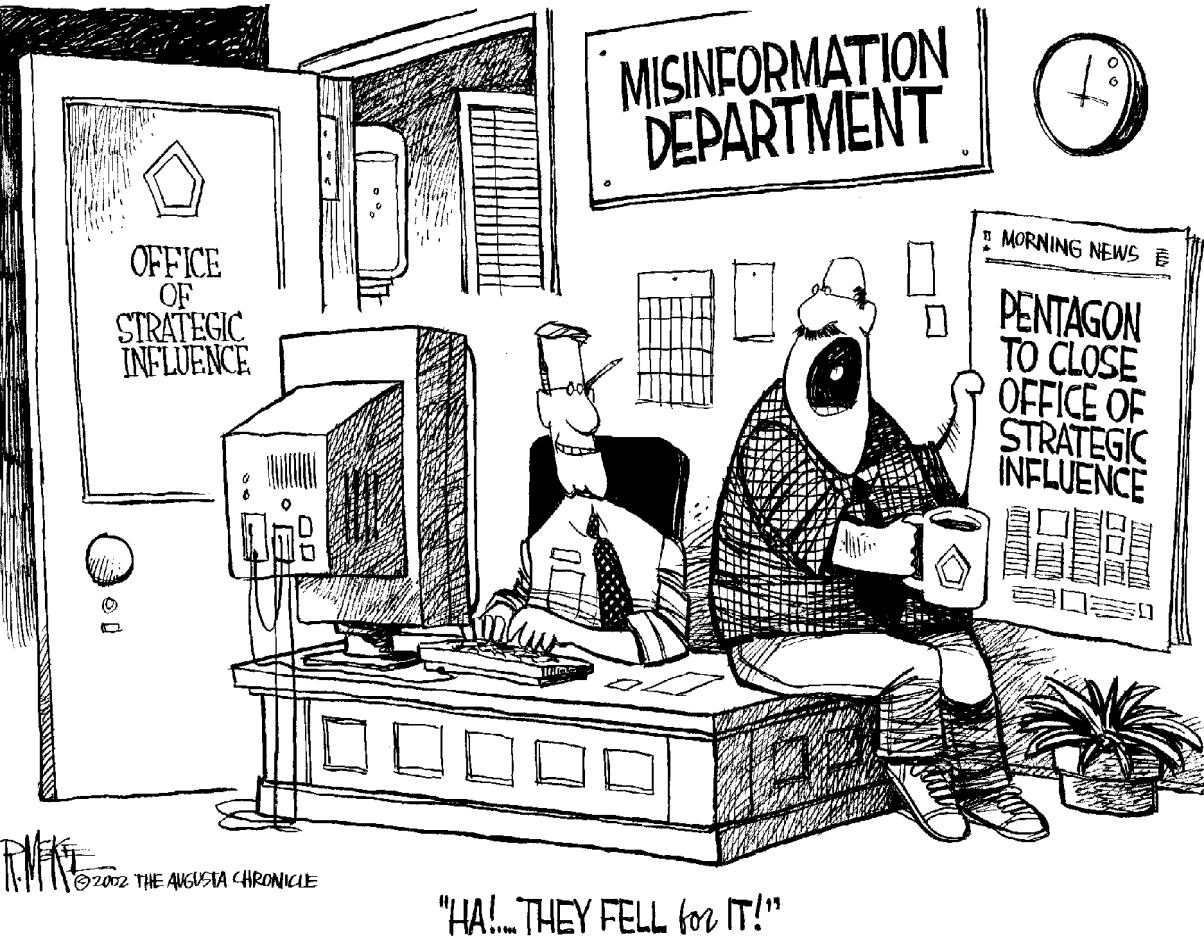
As a father myself, I find the most terrifying and troublesome aspect of this proposal to be the amount of

American lives it put at stake. CAFÉ standards force automobile manufacturers to sacrifice safety to build light weight cars that meet federal mandates. These vehicles do not offer the structural support necessary to protect our families in accidents. There is no excuse for putting our children's lives on the line.

As if lost lives are not enough, this proposal would have also cost countless American jobs. These standards would have forced American automobile manufacturer's to build cars similar to their European competitors. Those competitors already specialize in manufacturing smaller vehicles. This fact alone, gives foreign markets a benefit over American manufacturers. This measure would have cost American jobs during a time in which we are struggling to survive an economic downturn.

I could fill several pages with reasons why this proposal is a step in the wrong direction. Simply put: this was an irresponsible approach to solving a very serious issue. Thankfully, the members of the Senate realized the flaws contained in raising CAFÉ standards. Members crossed party lines and made the right decision to vote this proposal down.

Those members of the Senate understand that the safety of your family and your job should not be determined by the government's faulty decision making. I applaud the Senate for their mindful decision. The right to choose safety for American lives and American jobs still belongs to you.



"HA!... THEY FELL for IT!"

‘Once again, I was there...’ Socorro teacher takes part in another Presidential chapter of history

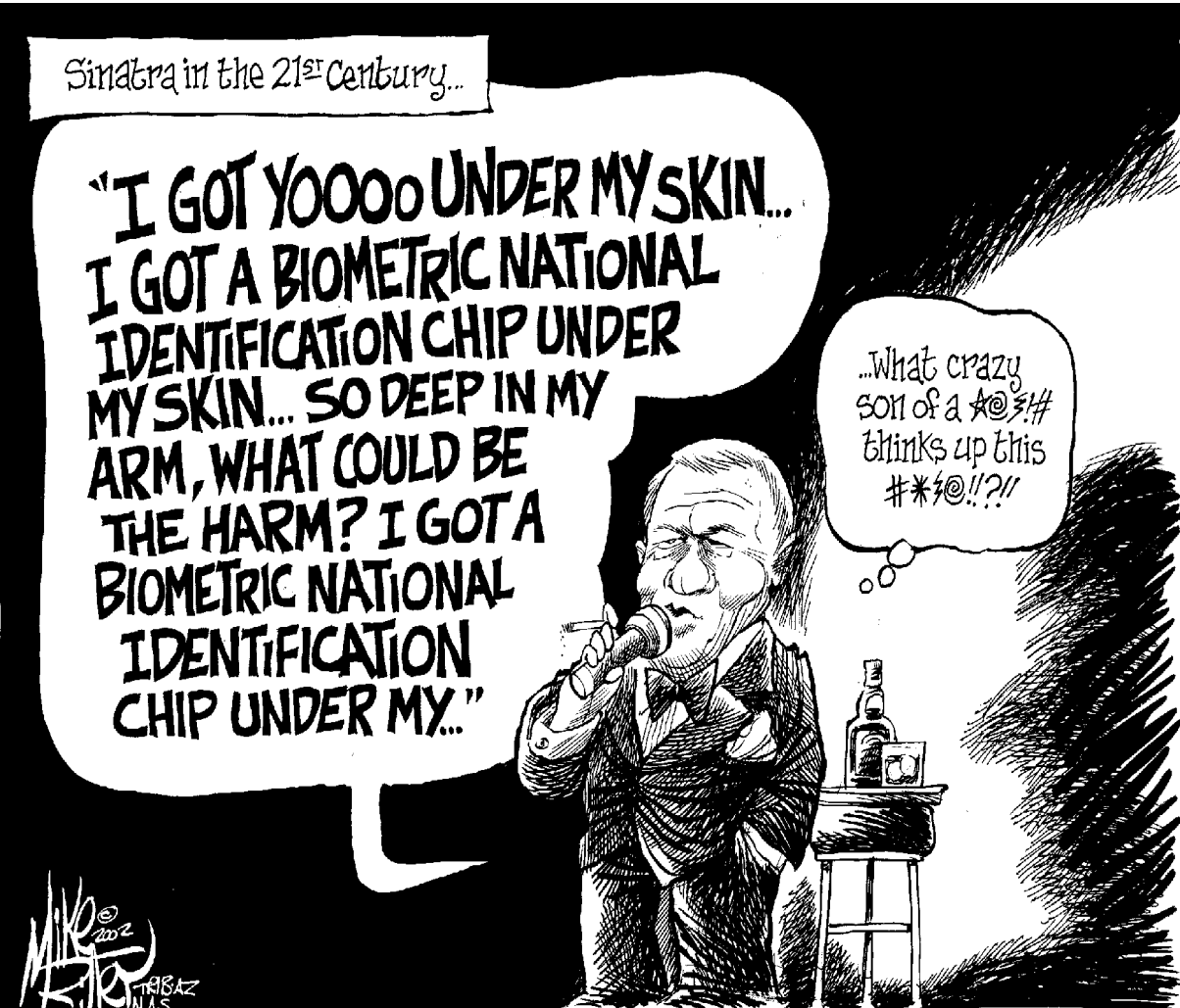
By Jan Engels
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — I was there on March 21 at the NASA hangar in El Paso when President and Laura Bush came to town. A mix of El Pasoans were packed in with a great number of army fatigues dotting the NASA hangar floor, but no one complained. The dignitaries were in close quarters on the stage but no one complained, and the news media were also compressed on the media stage but there were no complaints there, either. I sat next to a reporter from the *Washington Post*.

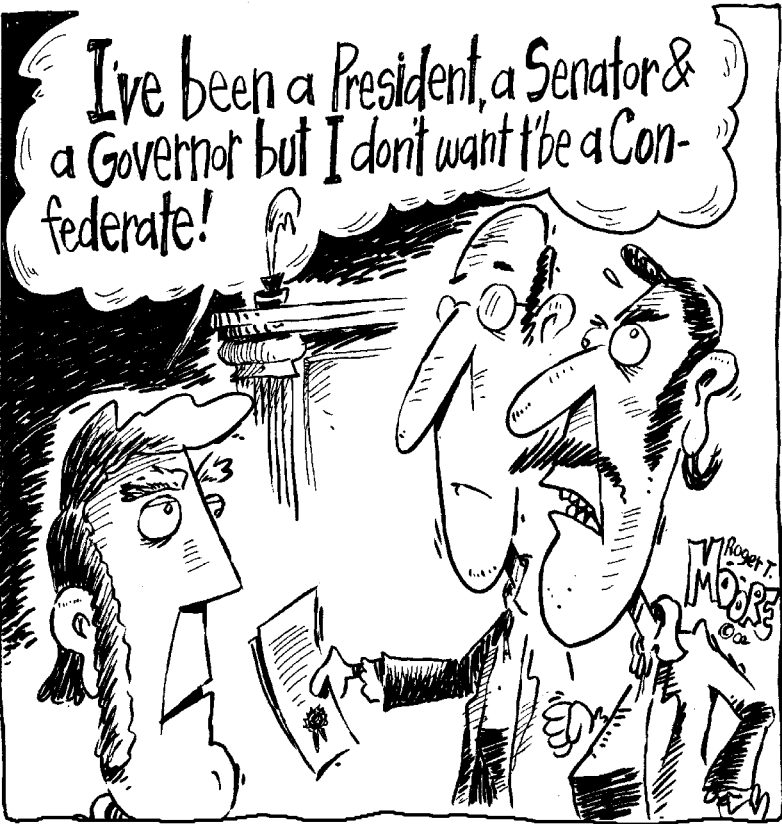


Jan Engels

good. That Americans will defend our freedom at whatever cost is necessary. The price of freedom cannot be too high. The President gave some suggestions of how can we help, by loving one another, helping children to read and performing the million acts of kindness each and every one of us can do each and every day. I was there when he mentioned our Mexican friends and said that what is good for Juarez is good for El Paso and good for the USA. How the increased technology and security at our border crossings will help both countries. It was a impressive morning and I am happy to be able to say...I was there. (Jan Engels' last political piece was submitted from the Democratic National Convention ... she was there!)



TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger Moore March 16, 1861, Gov. Sam Houston refuses to take the oath of allegiance to the Confederate States of America.



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Lower Valley Water District Notice of Public Meeting

The Lower Valley Water District (LVWD) will conduct a public meeting at the Lower Valley Water District Office, 1557 F.M. Rd. 1110 at 6:30 p.m. on March 28, 2002 regarding the implementation of reduced water rates.

On August 17, 2000 the LVWD was directed by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to reduce water rates to bring the rates in line with other area providers. The new LVWD rates will go into effect on April 1, 2002.

Below are three charts providing water rates. Chart #1 provides current LVWD rates. Chart #2 provides the new LVWD rates. Chart #3 provides current Public Service Board (PSB) rates for comparison.

The new LVWD rates will reduce a regular monthly bill from \$66.00 to \$44.00, a 33% reduction. They will be 15% higher than the current PSB rates.

(AWC: Average Winter Consumption)

Chart #1

| Current LVWD Rates | Price per CCF |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Up to 9 CCF (Minimum) | \$1.917 (\$17.26 Minimum) |
| Up to 175% AWC | \$2.37 |
| 175% up to 400% AWC | \$3.07 |
| Over 400% AWC | \$3.84 |

Chart #2

| April 1, 2002 New LVWD Rates | Price per CCF |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Up to 4 CCF (Minimum) | \$1.07 (\$4.28 Minimum) |
| Up to 150% AWC | \$0.98 |
| 150% up to 250% AWC | \$1.85 |
| Over 250% AWC | \$2.38 |

Chart #3

| Current PSB Rates | Price per CCF |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Up to 4 CCF (Minimum) | \$0.93 (\$3.73 Minimum) |
| Up to 150% AWC | \$0.85 |
| 150% up to 250% AWC | \$1.61 |
| Over 250% AWC | \$2.07 |

All Lower Valley Water District residents are invited to attend. If you need assistance or have any questions call 791-4480.

WTCC: 03/28/02



YOUR EXCELLENCE IS SHOWING — Canutillo High School students honored for educational excellence are, front row from left, Rick Marmolejo, Iris Leony, Marilyn Valdez, Sara Escobar. Back row, from left, Princess Trillo, Jaime Trejo, Rick Guzman, Andres Alvarez, Jesus Gallegos, Carlos Ruiz.

Canutillo High students noted for outstanding achievements

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Ten Canutillo High School students will be recognized for their outstanding academic achievements during the Eighth Annual Celebration of Educational Excellence, which will be held Tuesday, April 9, at the University of Texas at El Paso. The celebration is sponsored by the State Board of Education

and Texas Education Agency.

Canutillo High students being honored are: Seniors, Princess Trillo, Ricardo Marmolejo, Andres Alvarez, Jaime Trejo; Juniors, Marilyn Valdez, Richard Guzman; Sophomores, Iris Leony, Jesus Gallegos; Freshmen, Sara Escobar, Carlos Ruiz.

The celebration is designed to honor students who have demonstrated outstanding academic accomplishments in the foundation curriculum areas including language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Briefs

From Page 1

fee is \$20 and tryouts will be held April 20-21. Season will begin May 3. The League is sponsored by the Horizon City Optimist Club and local businesses. Coaches and umpires are also needed. Call John Dixon at 852-9349 for information.

■ The Rebecca Stoddert Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, will hold their 100th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, April 14, 1:00 p.m. at the El Paso Woman’s Club, 1400 North Mesa. The Rebecca Stoddert Chapter, NSDAR, was organized here in El Paso on April 14, 1902, and has been an active chapter since that time. For information call 595-3347 or 581-0147.

■ “Go Wild! Grow Native! Landscaping with Native Southwestern Plants” is the theme of FloraFEST 2002 at the Centennial Museum, Wiggins Road and University Avenue on the UTEP Campus. On Thursday, April 25,

from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. a reception will be held for an exhibit of Chihuahuan Desert Paintings by Artist Hilda Rosenfeld. On Friday, April 26, 7 p.m. a FloraFEST lecture, “Gathering Wisdom From A Flower” will be given by Dr. Jack L. Carter, Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Biology of Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO and author of *Trees and Shrubs of New Mexico*. A native plant sale will be held on Saturday, April 27, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, April 28, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wild flower and gardening books will be on sale and plant experts will be on hand to help with selections. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the Chihuahuan Desert Gardens at The Centennial Museum.

■ The David G. Burnet Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas will hold a luncheon meeting on Friday, April 12, at 11:30, at the El Paso Club, 200 E. Main. The program will be a book review by Doris Svetoka. For information, call 584-2086.

■ The El Paso Pro-Musica Guild’s 25th Annual Spring Soiree featuring a gourmet dinner and

live entertainment will be hosted by Mr. and Mrs. John T. Hjalmlquist at their beautiful home at 848 Forest Willow Circle in the Upper Valley on Sunday, May 19, 7-10 p.m. The glittering event will feature champagne and a gourmet dinner by Kay & Company. For reservations and information contact the Pro Musica Office at 833-9400.

■ A fund to help the family of Thelma Mendoza to meet funeral expenses has been set up at the Government Employees Credit Union following her tragic death and that of family members in an automobile accident. Contributions may be made to the Thelma Mendoza Family Fund at any GECU location.

■ The Upper Valley Lions Club is now accepting orders to make your mother happy, with roses on Mother’s Day. One dozen roses will be delivered by the Club on May 10-11 for \$15. Orders must be placed by May 6 by calling 584-0130 or contacting an Upper Valley Lion. All proceeds from this annual event benefit area charities and help local children attend Texas Lions Camp.

Classified Ads

LEGAL

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 - UNKNOWN, Buick LeSabre, brown, PGN-83T
VIN - IFICF10E4CUA23047, Ford F-100, white, CHIH MX - D64I349

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WTCC-3/28/02

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755-1730.
TFN

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.

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New Texas found ways to bring in new settlers

History of Texas Public Lands - Part Eleven

TEXAS — Texas had won independence from Mexico but found forming a new government was fraught with pitfalls of all kinds. Doling out land and attracting citizens is explored as this historical series continues.

Not all the fraud was committed by soldiers. Land certificates were often stolen and the transfers forged. Possibly one-tenth of the military grants were fraudulent or in excess of the amount owed the soldiers or their heirs.

Many *Tejanos* — Texans of Hispanic descent — who had fought in the Texas Revolution received military land grants, but few of African descent who participated were given land. Although the Constitution of 1836 and subsequent legislation barred Blacks from citizenship, the bounty and donation acts did not specify that they could not receive military land grants.

There was great debate over whether the prohibition on citizenship meant that Blacks could not own land. In 1831, Greenbury Logan, a free Black man from Missouri, received a Mexican land grant under Stephen F. Austin for a third of an acre in Brazoria County. Logan served with James Fannin at the siege of Bexar during the Texas Revolution. In 1837, he petitioned Congress for land as a reward for service. Congress approved his request and he obtained a donation certificate for 640 acres and a bounty warrant for 320 acres. This set a precedent for giving donation land to other Blacks. William and Abner Ashworth, who had contributed money and supplies to the army, were given bounty land; and the widow of Peter Allen, a musician in Fannin's troops who had been taken prisoner and executed at Goliad, was given donation land in Bexar County. However, many other Blacks who petitioned Congress either were not heard or their petitions were rejected.

Back to empresarios

Texans felt that an increase in the population of Texas would raise land values, provide tax revenue and protect the frontier from Indian and Mexican raids. Therefore, the Republic used headrights and the *empresario* system to lure people to Texas.

To encourage the established settlers to remain in Texas during a time of instability, the Constitution of 1836 established a first class headright act. Every head of a household, male or female, living in Texas on March 2, 1836, would receive a league and a labor of land (4,605 acres), while single men at least 17 years old would be given a third of a league (1,476 acres). The act excluded Indians, Blacks, anyone who had left Texas to avoid military service, and anyone who had already received the same amount of land from Mexico. Those who had received a smaller amount from Mexico were entitled to the difference. Grantees were not required to live on the land, as they had been under Mexico.

To attract new settlers, the Republic passed three more headright acts. In December 1837, a second class headright act granted 1,280 acres of land to heads of families (640 acres to single men) who had settled in Texas between March 2, 1836 and October 1, 1837. This was a conditional grant, as the grantee was required to remain in Texas for three years, perform duties of citizenship and pay surveying and other fees.

The legislature provided a third class headright grant in 1838. This grant, issued to those who arrived in Texas between October 1, 1837 and January 1, 1840, reduced the amount of land to 640 acres for heads of families and 320 acres for single men. It retained the three-year residency requirement.

A fourth class headright grant, established in 1842, extended the pro-

visions of the 1838 act to January 1, 1842. It also required the cultivation of at least 10 acres of the tract before a final deed was issued.

A special headright was issued for military service. Soldiers who arrived in Texas between March 2, 1836 and August 1, 1836 received the same amount of land given to original colonists in a first class headright (4,605 acres for the head of a family). Civilians who came to Texas during this time received a

second class headright of 1,280 acres. In May 1838, a special headright was issued to the heirs of those who had fallen with Fannin, Travis, Grant or Johnson in 1836. A third special headright in 1838 gave one league of land to veterans who had been permanently disabled through their service.

The headright system, like the military land grant system, was open to fraudulent practices. Witnesses were not always credible; but the

county boards accepted nearly every application received, since the applicants were often their friends and neighbors. About 30,360,002 acres were granted through headright certificates.

Part XII will continue next week. The information contained in this historical series can be accessed at www.glo.state.tx.us, and is reprinted with permission of the Texas General Land Office.)



TORNILLO, TEXAS PUBLIC NOTICE



A **TIRE AMNESTY DAY** will be held on Saturday, April 06, 2002 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Tornillo Elementary School maintenance area, corner of Cobb Ave and Second St. The purpose of this tire amnesty day is to bring the Tornillo and surrounding community areas together to reach two common goals. The goals are the removal of waste tires and the control of mosquitoes. Mosquitoes can transmit diseases such as Encephalitis, Malaria, Dengue, and Yellow Fever. **Encephalitis infected mosquitoes have been found in or around your community.** The disease can be fatal especially among children, the elderly or people with a low immune system. Ideal mosquito breeding areas are tires, which we all know are found in abundance throughout El Paso County. We can find tires on the rooftops of mobile homes, yards, roadsides, vacant lots, irrigation ditches, canals, the desert, or any other location where some people manage to dump them illegally.

During this amnesty day we will be accepting only passenger vehicle tires (**cars and pickups**) with or without rims. **NO tractor, semi, aircraft, large or commercial vehicle tires will be accepted.** This service will be **FREE OF CHARGE** and there is no limit to the number of tires you will be allowed to drop off during this **ONE DAY EVENT, no questions asked.** Since there will be a separate tire amnesty day for businesses, we ask that the local tire businesses not use this day to drop off their waste tires. However these businesses can join the rest of the community in collecting illegally dumped waste tires throughout the Tornillo and surrounding areas. **NOTE:** There will also be a second Tire Amnesty day for the San Elizario area on May 18, 2002 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. A third Tire Amnesty day will be held at Montana Vista Primary for the Montana Vista and surrounding areas. The date is June 2, 2002 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Please watch for further information, announcements, changes, and locations through this publication, flyers, or by contacting Juan Garcia at Environmental General, 594-1568. **LETS ALL COME TOGETHER AS A PROUD COMMUNITY AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

AVISO PUBLICO

SE HA DESIGNADO EL SABADO 6 DE ABRIL DE 2002 DE LAS 9:00 AM A 4:00 PM EL DÍA DE AMNISTÍA PARA LA RECOLECCIÓN DE LLANTAS USADAS. El lugar designado es la escuela primaria de Tornillo en el area de mantenimiento. La direccion es la siguiente, Cobb Ave. y Second Street. El proposito de este dia de amnistia es para unir a la comunidad de Tornillo y sus alrededores con la intencíon de recolectar llantas usadas para poder mantener el control de mosquitos y evitar enfermedades como **Encefalitis, Malaria, Dengue, y Fiebre Amarilla.** **Se han encontrado mosquitos infectados con el virus de Encefalitis en el area de Tornillo.** Esta enfermedad puede ser mortal especialmente en los niños, personas de avanzada edad, y personas con problema del systema inmunológico. Los lugares favoritos para la reproducción de los mosquitos, son los siguientes: llantas usadas, recipientes vacíos, botellas, frascos y piscinas de plástico para niños. El problema es en el condado de El Paso donde se han encontrado llantas usadas tiradas por las calles, carreteras, terrenos vacíos, y canales de irrigacion. Tambien se encuentran llantas en los patios de las casas, en drenajes y en los techos de las casas mobil.

En este día de amnistía se aceptaran solamente llantas de vehiculos personales con y sin rines. **NO se aceptaran llantas de vehiculos comerciales en este día. Este servicio se ofrece gratuitamente para la comunidad.** No habrá limite en la cantidad de llantas que traigan. **Este evento es de un solo día y no se hace ningun tipo de preguntas.** Se les pide a los comerciantes que por favor no usen este día para deshacerse de sus llantas. Vamos a tener otro día de recolección de llantas para los comerciantes. Se le invita a los comerciantes que se unan con la comunidad para este evento tan grande en la recolección de llantas usadas que se han tirado ilegalmente en terrenos vacíos, canales y las calles de la comunidad de Tornillo y sus alrededores. **Le recordamos** que vamos a tener un segundo día de amnistia para la comunidad de San Elisario el dia 18 de Mayo de 2002 de las 9:00 A.M. ha las 4:00 P.M. Un tercer día de amnistia se va a llevar acabo en la escuela Montana Vista Primary. La fecha designada es el 2 de Junio, de 2002 de 9:00 A.M. ha las 4:00 P.M. Este pendiente para informacion adicional, y cambios de horario y lugares en su periodico y noticias locales. Para mas informacion llame a Juan Garcia representante de este programa al numero 594-1568. **Juntos podemos lograr una comunidad orgullosa. ¡Hagamos la diferencia!**

**EL PASO CITY-COUNTY HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL DISTRICT
VECTOR CONTROL INITIATIVE PROGRAM**

6,000 to 8,000 Democrats coming to El Paso County

By Michelle J. Brown
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — Years of effort to draw the annual Texas State Democratic Convention finally paid off last year when officials announced El Paso was chosen for the first time to host the city's largest convention of 2002.

The resulting 6,000 to 8,000 statewide Democrats will descend upon El Paso June 13-15 for three days of meetings, planning and special events. Various entities will host the conventioners, including the El Paso Convention and Performing Arts Center and 29 local hotels.

"Believing that El Pasoans are our own best cheerleaders, we are working steadfastly with local business, Democratic Party leaders and volunteers to make this convention the best event possible," said Donna Yecke, sales manager for the El Paso CVB, who lobbied with locals to draw the state event to the Sun City. "Hosting a convention of this caliber greatly increases El Paso's profile among regional, state and national organization meeting planners and works to attract more large conventions.

"With Texas home to the second largest number of associations in the nation, just behind New York, the market for such events is huge. This event is a tremendous opportunity to prove what we can do."

Celebrating "A New Day for Texas," State Democratic Conven-

tion organizers promise a family affair with a variety of tourist options. The biennial gathering in the recently renovated and expanded Judson F. Williams Convention Center will provide a showcase for the Democratic statewide ticket and candidates for legislative, Congressional and other offices.

Events such as the Thursday evening Kick-Off Fund-raiser and the Blue Star Breakfast will give Democrats an opportunity to meet national elected officials and leaders, according to officials at the Texas Democratic Headquarters in Austin.

"It's going to be a big deal for El Paso because it's the first time we've hosted — and first impressions are always ever-lasting," said Rosalba Saenz, El Paso's point of contact for the convention.

For the past 40 years, state Republican and Democratic conventions have always rotated among Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin and San Antonio. As the state's fifth-largest city, El Paso has historically been under-served and under-targeted, according to organizers.

For more information about the Texas Democratic Convention June 13-15, call the El Paso Convention and Visitors Bureau's Donna Yecke at (915) 534-0614. To make hotel reservations, go on-line to www.txdemocrats.org or call Laura Taft at the CVB at 1-800-351-6024, or (915) 534-0600. For El Paso area information, log-on to www.visitelpaso.com.

Is sports truth stranger than fiction? Let’s find out

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

I know there are many serious major sports stories out there right now. The Final Four is coming up this weekend, Major League Baseball starts in less than a week and the NFL draft is right around the corner.

But there are just too many unbelievably quirky sports stories out there to ignore right now. In fact, they’re so weird that I’ll throw three stories at you and you tell me which are true and which I just made up.

O.K., let’s play.

Here’s our first whopper

What if you had the opportunity to make more money at your place of employment for simply doing your job? I mean, you already have the salary you make for doing your job but now you get an extra paycheck for doing your job.

Sound confusing? Maybe to you and me but not to the NFL.

Seems the league has decided to pay players extra money on top of their just-over-the-poverty-line salaries for...well...playing football.

The league will dip into a pool of money and pay every player in the NFL extra money depending on how many downs he plays. Like

if he plays on both defense and on special teams, he will make extra money.

I guess that’s called overtime to you and me.

The poor \$30-million athletes can’t be asked to do more than what is humanly possible. I mean, it’s tough to go three plays and out and then still be asked to block on the punt team. That’s inhumane!

By 2006, the pool will be said to consist of about \$250-million.

Boy, I think I’ll approach my boss with the same idea tomorrow. Chances are he may offer up a convenient option or two where I can put my controversial proposal.

Whopper number two

Everybody’s heard of those “one-armed bandits” that take every last penny you’ve got in Las Vegas or at any casino around the country. Well, here’s a story of a “one-armed bandit” you might find a little unusual or at least hard to believe.

A promising golfer from little Spring, Texas had a terrible car accident 10 years ago that cost him his arm. Let’s call our golfer Larry Alford.

Alford lost his arm below the elbow and that pretty much ended his golfing career

Right? Wrong!

He was fitted for an artificial limb that has enabled him to take on golfers in charity events.

In fact, Alford, who is nick-named the “one-armed bandit,” has been able to make a living playing golf with his prosthetic arm...until now.

Seems that someone else in Spring, Texas is in desperate need of an artificial limb. Alford’s golfing arm has been stolen.

The \$15,000 prosthesis was stolen from Alford’s vehicle and no one has been caught as of yet.

I guess the thief has had some prior dealings with prosthetics because he obviously is wearing an artificial heart.

Whopper number three

Did you happen to hear about the recent injury to the San Francisco Giants’ Jeff Kent? He fractured his wrist and will undoubtedly miss some games to start the season.

But the broken wrist isn’t news, the news is how he broke it, or at least how he claims he broke it. Kent told the team he broke it after a fall he had while, and get this, while washing his truck.

Washing his truck? Even I’ve accomplished this feat numerous times without incident — I had prune fingers once, but that’s it.

Anyway, it’s good he injured himself while washing his truck because he has some stipulations in his contract which would cost him financially if he got injured doing something

reckless like, let’s say...riding his motorcycle.

Now this story Kent told his superiors about taking a nasty fall during a dangerous truck washing expedition couldn’t have been made up, could it?

Well, just listen to this. What if I told you that investigators have now found out that a few witnesses saw a man popping wheelies on a motorcycle not far from Scottsdale Stadium the same afternoon Kent suffered his unfortunate “sudstastrophy”.

And that the witnesses claim that the man doing the stunts had a spectacular wipe out filled with sparks and screeching metal. The witnesses said that a few men in a white van near the stunt guy helped him and his motorcycle into a pickup truck and they all sped away.

Let’s say the witnesses followed the vehicles and got the license plate number of the van which, amazingly, belongs to a local dealership that leased the vehicle to the Giants for spring training.

If it is determined, and it’s pretty close, that Kent hurt himself riding his motorcycle instead of washing his truck, he will lose \$37,000 for every game he misses.

He also should be spanked for lying.

So which of these whoppers were real and which were made up? Stop racking your brain. Sadly, they all were true.

Socorro proclaims April as ‘Month of the Child’

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — As advocates in recognizing that quality health and education in conjunction with safety have a tremendous impact on the physical, social and emotional development of young children, members of Socorro City council have proclaimed April 2002 as “Month of the Child.”

City Representative Sam Brewster read the proclamation at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on March 21. This is an effort to promote public aware-

ness on the importance of quality health, safety and education of children for the future of the Socorro community, state and nation. This proclamation is also an indicator of Socorro’s support of all child care associations that recognize and promote public awareness of the importance of quality health, education and safety for all children of all ethnic and economical status.

In other business, City Council approved the Parade Permit request by the Socorro Independent School District Wellness Program/KEYS Academy for April 20 at 9:30 a.m. to promote the Lower Valley Health Fair.

Eradicate

From Page 1

sophisticated cultivations, including one that had an automated watering system that ran off an electrical generator in the woods. Other growths were wild, remnants of previous legal cultivation for hemp in wartime 1940s.

DPS’s domestic marijuana eradication program also includes an educational component. DPS Safety Education Service troopers present programs in schools about the dangers of drug use and are planning an educational section within the DPS Web site.

“Our Safety Education Service troopers try to reach out to children at a young age to emphasize the importance of staying drug-free,” said Col. Davis.

Recovery of stolen vehicles from Mexico rose last year

TEXAS — More than \$25 million in stolen vehicles were recovered from Mexico by the Texas Department of Public Safety Motor Vehicle Theft Service in 2001 — an increase from \$19 million in 2000.

DPS recovered 1,967 of the 4,575 stolen vehicles identified south of the border, raising the recovery rate to 43 percent in 2001.

Credit for the increase in vehicle recoveries goes both to the dedicated staff of the DPS Border Auto Theft Information Center (BATIC) and to Mexican law enforcement.

“Much of the praise goes to the BATIC employees” said Motor Vehicle Theft Service Commander David Griffith. “Before BATIC was created, less than 50 vehicles a year were recovered from south of the border.”

BATIC acts as a link between Mexican and U.S. law enforcement, simplifying the process of identifying and recovering stolen vehicles. The bilingual staff operates a 24-hour

800 line seven days a week, accessible to law enforcement on both of sides of the border.

BATIC staff members work closely with the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) in identifying stolen vehicles. Funded by approximately 1,000 national insurance companies, NICB assists DPS with investigations, tracking vehicles and accessing manufacturer’s shipping records.

Motor Vehicle Theft Service created BATIC in 1994 with a grant from the Texas Automobile Theft Prevention Authority. It is the largest DPS Motor Vehicle Theft office in Texas and the only resource of its kind in the nation. In addition to Mexico, it serves all 50 states, with the majority of U.S. contacts coming from border states like California, New Mexico and Arizona.

Because they have no national database, Mexican police also use BATIC to recover stolen Mexican vehicles and prosecute criminals.

King Super Crossword

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|------------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| RIGHT ON PEW | 68 Service member? | 130 Conceit | 38 Zodiac sign | 98 Itch |
| ACROSS | 70 Administered anes- | 131 African antelope | 39 Sanctioned | 100 Big bang letters |
| 1 Guru | thesia | 132 Improve | 42 Dubuque denizen | 103 _ League |
| 6 Outfielder Tony | 74 Pangolin's morsel | | 45 Renown | 104 Poisonous plant |
| 11 Bother | 75 Cavern | | 46 Overused | 105 Java joints |
| 14 Cen. segments | 78 White House | DOWN | 47 San _ Italy | 106 Verdi's " _ Miller" |
| 17 Regret | spokesman Fleischer | 1 Runners carry it | 48 Tribe | 107 Ford's predecessor |
| 19 Bother | 79 " _ Doll" ('64 hit) | 2 Breaker | 49 _ nibs | 109 " _ Off to Larry" ('61 tune) |
| 21 Lennon's widow | 81 Harvest | 3 Sherman Hemsley | 52 Roll with the | |
| 22 Velvet finish | 85 Stiller's partner | sitcom | punches | 110 Skirt shape |
| 23 Start of a remark | 86 Carl of "Cosmos" | 4 "Mal de _" | 53 With it | 113 Cipher |
| 27 Cozy room | 88 Cruise | 5 Caravansary | 54 "Gigi" author | 114 Funnyman Foxx |
| 28 _ Canals | 89 "The Egg _" ('47 film) | 6 '70 Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young hit | 58 Furnishings | 115 Perry's victory site |
| 29 "Heavens to Betsy!" | 90 Symbol of sturdi- | 7 Fond du _ , WI | 60 "Don Giovanni" set- | 116 Neighbor of Mass. |
| 30 Cowboy star Lash | ness | 8 Fury | ting | 117 Had bills |
| 31 Spotted rodent | 91 Tiny insectivore | 9 Large tub | 61 Rowan or Rather | 119 Droop |
| 33 Deteriorate | 92 Cut and dried? | 10 _ McCourt's | 62 Marine leader? | 120 Cambodia's Lon _ |
| 36 More like a peacock | 94 Deli delicacy | "Angela's _" | 67 Bald bird | 121 La-la lead-in |
| 37 Lancelot's son | 95 Part 3 of remark | 11 "Hopalong Cassidy" star | 69 Actress Hagen | 122 Coop critter |
| 40 Fruity beverage | 99 Game name | 12 Important numero | 71 _ beaver | 123 Middling mark |
| 41 Newsstand | 101 Kidney-related | 13 Type of stew | 72 Texas talk | 124 Alphabet sequence |
| 43 Castle or Dunne | 102 Corn portion | 14 Long for | 73 Cart | |
| 44 Part 2 of remark | 103 Ridiculous | 15 Variety show | 75 Equipment | |
| 50 Rock band's stint | 105 Bloom or Danes | 16 Villain's look | 76 Autumn implement | |
| 51 Composer Gustav | 108 Hut | 18 Puccini heroine | 77 Actor Milo | |
| 55 Russell of "A Beau- | 111 Oxidize | 20 Aromatic plant | 80 Distress | |
| tiful Mind" | 112 Boring tool | 24 Warty one | 82 Zhou _ | |
| 56 Cohen or Wallach | 113 Zest | 25 Summer wear | 83 Doll up | |
| 57 Balloon material? | 114 38 Down's symbol | 26 Terse verse | 84 Elf | |
| 59 "New Look" de- | 115 Author Umberto | 31 Word form for "ali" | 85 Janitor's item | |
| signer | 118 End of remark | 32 "Excuse me" | 87 Salt-water lake | |
| 60 _ cog (blunder) | 125 Compass pt. | 33 Moisten the mari- | 88 It may be tall | |
| 61 Swashbuckling | 126 Subway unit | golds | 91 "Auld Lang -" | |
| novelist | 127 Disturbed the | 34 Fragrance | 92 ER exclamation | |
| 63 Man, for one | peace? | 35 Mil. unit | 93 Emcee's site | |
| 64 Gl's address | 128 Singer Dion | 36 Viva _ | 96 Took a shot at | |
| 65 Exactly | 129 Shorten a slat | 37 Tenor Beniamino | 97 O'Hara's "From the | |
| 66 Kevin of "SNL" | | _ | _ | |

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Only you can help prevent chocolate french fries

By Don Flood

Would you like some chocolate fries with that shake?
How about some sky blue fries to match those baby blues?
You think I'm kidding, don't you? No, my friends, that's what it's coming to.
Heinz, that wacky, out-of-control food company that brought us green and purple ketchup, is at it again.
Recently, the company announced a whole new line of Ore-Ida frozen potato products that includes, among others, chocolate french fries and perhaps even weirder — sky blue french fries!
According to the story, chocolate fries are designed "for kids with a sweet tooth."
They should have added "and whose parents are raving lunatics!"
What's the matter — American kids aren't fat enough already?
Has the Food and Drug Administration declared a chocolate deficiency among our nation's youth?
What is next, PEOPLE!?
Are we going to be offered chocolate fondue sauce the next time we order a Big Mac?
And where is Susan Powter now that we need her?

Ms. Powter, for those who've forgotten, was very big a few years ago. Her message was: "Stop the Insanity!"
I don't recall much of what she said, but that "Stop the Insanity!" line was so convincing and she seemed so doggone perky that I was almost persuaded to "Stop the Insanity!" myself. (Almost, but not quite.)
If President Bush put her in charge of Homeland Sanity, she could give daily press conferences:
PRESS BONEHEAD: What is the Administration's position on chocolate french fries?
POWTER: Stop the Insanity!
PRESS BONEHEAD: What message will the President be bringing our European allies concerning new colors for ketchup?
POWTER: Stop the Insanity!
Oops, I've just been handed a bulletin that says Susan Powter is alive and well and selling — you'll never guess where — on the Internet!
So Susan, how do you like my column so far?
POWTER: Stop the Insanity!
Sorry I asked. See if I plug you again!
But we'll just leave Susan in cyberspace and go right to the meat of the column, where I solve ALL of the world's problems.
(Editor's note: Because of space considerations, many of the world's

problems will be addressed — and solved — in future columns.)
The solution to this particular problem is something called the Congressional Resolution, a very powerful tool that has enabled our legislators to respond swiftly to national emergencies by declaring, for example, National Foot Fungus Week:
Whereas, the idea of chocolate french fries is just plain yucky, and
Whereas, just thinking about chocolate french fries has been proven to cause obesity in laboratory rats, and
Whereas, as a nation we really need to get a grip, and
Whereas, it's not like we don't already have cheese fries for goodness sake,
Be it resolved that henceforth the making of chocolate french fries will be banned in perpetuity or until the cast of 'Friends' ever grows up, whichever comes later.
P.S. And the same goes for those disgusting blue french fries.
I'll admit the part about the lab rats is a little bit of a stretch — OK, I made it up — but it's a start.
Together, my friends, we can prevent chocolate french fries and — sorry, Susan — Stop the Insanity!

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DPS accident reconstruction team provides answers

AUSTIN — Rolling slowly past an accident scene, you may have seen Texas Department of Public Safety troopers walking around the area, laying tape measures and scribbling in a notebook.
You might be interested to know they were measuring skid marks to use in momentum equations that, combined with other physical evidence, calculate a vehicle's speed. This is the science of accident reconstruction, which uses trigonometry and physics in combination with physical evidence left behind to determine the circumstances and causes of a collision. Accident reconstruction can also help determine fault in a fatal accident.
"We've protected people who might have been prosecuted unjustly," says Highway Patrol Sgt. Charles Seale of Kerrville, "and prosecuted many who would have gone free."

The first designated DPS accident reconstruction team was formed in September 1992 when Seale was asked to re-investigate a collision. He took along a couple of experienced officers to assist him. Today, he is in charge of the DPS accident reconstruction school.

There are 14 district teams now, in addition to the original state team. Teams consist of four to seven troopers who all have completed the five levels of accident reconstruction training: introduction to collision investigation; on-scene investigation; technical investigation or analysis; reconstruction; and cause analysis.

All DPS troopers receive accident reconstruction training, and accident reconstruction is not limited to the designated teams. Last August, DPS troopers responded to an after-school collision between an 8-year-old girl and an auto. After she was taken away by ambulance, the troopers interviewed the dazed driver and witnesses, and examined the neighborhood street.

Some two hours later, using only spray paint, tape measures and skid marks, the trio of troopers was able to determine that the driver had not been speeding and was not at fault.
The district teams all have a Total Station, a surveyor's device used to map an area by measuring angles and distances using geometric and trigonometric techniques. Many Total Stations include a Theodolite, an optical device that shoots a laser to a prism held by officers at specific points around the scene. In compli-

cated cases, teams may take up to 400 measurements from different spots.
Some procedures are standard for all teams. Before visiting the scene of a traffic collision, the team leader secures any field notes and photographs available and reviews the accident file. Once on scene, the team inspects the area, evaluates the road surface and determines the weather conditions and light levels at the time of the collision.
Physical evidence, such as skid marks, grooves in the pavement and tracks on the shoulder are studied and measured. These are used in determining the linear momentum (the principle that if two objects collide, energy changes) of the vehicles involved. Eyewitness accounts and driver's statements are analyzed and compared to what the team finds at the scene. All too often, however, eyewitness accounts conflict with the evidence.

The Austin team recently visited northern Hays County to investigate a two-vehicle, one-fatality collision. A driver had lost control of his car on a curve, careened across the road and struck a hay wagon sitting on the shoulder. When the vehicles collided, the hay wagon went airborne, striking and killing a man on the shoulder.

In addition to taking measurements at more than 300 spots, they measured the skid marks, still visible two weeks later, to use in computing the driver's speed at time of impact. Highway Patrol Sgt. Philip Kemp conducted two test re-creations of the vehicle's skid, and his speed and the length of his skids were added to the program formula. He also interviewed a witness, going over his earlier statement.

All of the team's findings are later compiled and entered into a computer program that produces a forensic map of the accident site. The vehicles involved, bodies and other landmarks are added to the map by hand later, after the team has examined the wrecked vehicles.

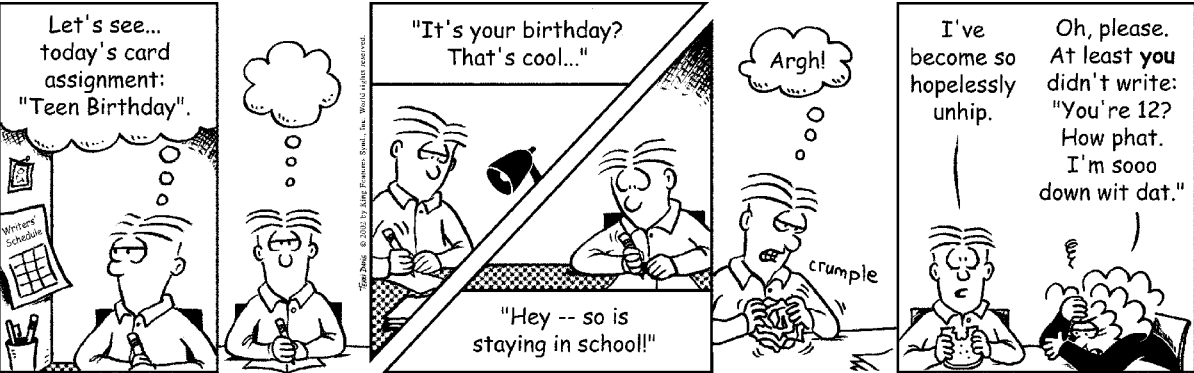
The reports generated by DPS accident reconstruction teams are commonly used in court and by law enforcement agencies in establishing cause and responsibility of collisions.
The number of collision victims absolved of blame, or identified as being at fault is unknown. One thing is clear: there is no measure of the peace they offer survivors by helping them to understand the tragedy, even if just a little.

Comix

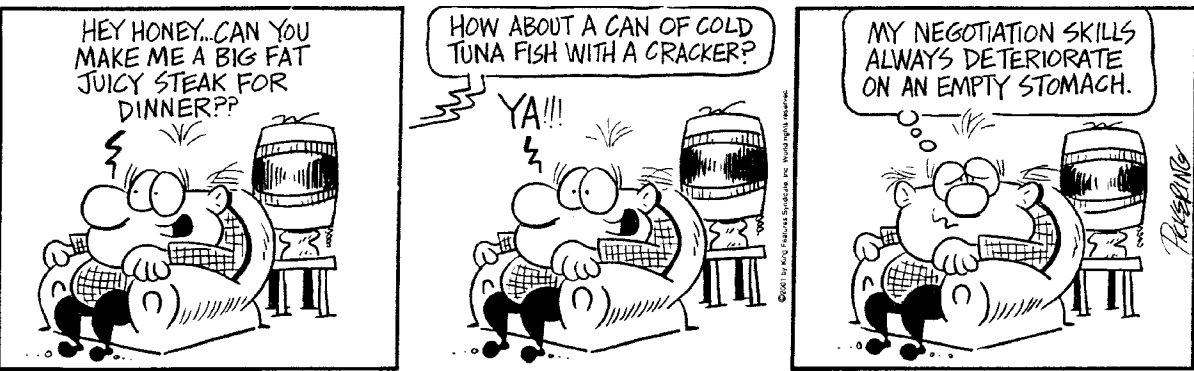
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



GOT A LIFE By Terri Davis



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



HAIR SLINGERS

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Phamiliar phrases

a "one-track mind"

A single-track railway allows traffic in only one direction at a time. A person who is overly preoccupied with only one subject is said to have a "one-track mind."

ONE WAY

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| | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| SWAMI | OLIVA | BUG | YRS |
| LAMENT | HARASS | ONO | TEEN |
| EVERNOT | ICETHAT | YOUHAVE | |
| DEN | SOO | EGAD | LARUE |
| | PACA | WORSEN | VAINER |
| GALAHAD | ADE | KIOSK | |
| IGRENE | TOGETTO | CHURCH | |
| GIG | MAHLER | CROWE | ELI |
| LEAD | DIOR | SLIPA | DUMAS |
| ISLE | APO | PAT | NEALON |
| | CUP | SEDATED | ANT |
| GEOTTO | ARI | RAG | REAP |
| MEARA | SAGAN | SAIL | ANDI |
| OAK | SHREW | STYLED | LOX |
| PRETTY | EARLYTO | ATARI | |
| | RENAL | EAR | ASININE |
| CLAIRE | SHANTY | RUST | |
| AUGER | ZEAL | RAM | ECO |
| FINDASE | ATIN | THEBACK | CROW |
| ESE | CAR | SNORED | CELINE |
| SAW | EGO | ELAND | EMEND |

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COURIER

Newspapers work!

Social Security

By Ray Vigil

Financial protection available for young workers

Most young people don't think a lot about Social Security, and those who do perhaps think of it as retirement for their grandparents' generation. They should know that Social Security provides much more than just retirement benefits.

Social Security provides benefits to young workers and their families if they become disabled. Social Security's disability coverage is equivalent to a \$208,000 insurance policy for a young worker with average wages and a spouse and two children. The average monthly disability benefit paid to a family of this size is \$1,360.

In addition, Social Security provides benefits to survivors of deceased workers, including their children. About one out of seven Americans can expect to die before reaching age 67. Social Security's survivors insurance is equivalent to a \$403,000 insurance policy for a young worker with average wages and a spouse and two children. The average monthly survivor's benefit paid to a family of this size is \$1,764.

A young worker can obtain both disability and survivor insurance protection very easily. A worker under age 24 who pays Social Security taxes for just one and a half years is covered. A worker under age 31 who pays Social Security taxes for half the time elapsed since age 21 is also covered.

Horizon City Community Chapel

Sunday School9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service 10:45 a.m.
Sunday Yth. Group ...6:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Adult
Bible Study6:30 p.m.

Mr. Dean Pinney, Pastor

Spanish Services

Estudio Dominical9:45 a.m.
Servicios en Español .. 10:45 a.m.
Estudio en Español
Biblico Jueves6:30 p.m.

Mr. Pablo Gonzalez, Assoc. Pastor

Sunday Morning Nursery available

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WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

| THURSDAY | THUR. NIGHT | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|---------------------------------|------------------|--|--|---------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | | | | | | |
| Periods of clouds and sunshine. | Variable clouds. | Breezy; clouds and sunshine, then mostly cloudy. | Mostly cloudy, then partly sunny in the afternoon. | Mostly sunny. | Sunny. | Intervals of clouds and sunshine. | Times of clouds and sunshine. |
| ▲ 84° | ▼ 52° | ▲ 76° ▼ 48° | ▲ 72° ▼ 46° | ▲ 74° ▼ 44° | ▲ 78° ▼ 48° | ▲ 76° ▼ 46° | ▲ 78° ▼ 50° |

UV INDEX

Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday 8High
Friday 4Low
Saturday 5Moderate
Sunday 8High
Monday 8High
Tuesday 7High
Wednesday 8High

TEXAS WEATHER

| | | |
|--------------|----|----|
| Anthony | 84 | 52 |
| Canutillo | 85 | 53 |
| Clint | 82 | 53 |
| E. Montana | 84 | 52 |
| Fabens | 82 | 53 |
| Horizon | 85 | 53 |
| San Elizario | 82 | 50 |
| Socorro | 84 | 51 |
| Tornillo | 82 | 52 |
| Vinton | 85 | 53 |

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 | 76/42/s | 70/38/s | 60/38/sh | 68/40/pc | 70/32/s |
| Atlanta | 70/46/s | 74/50/pc | 72/48/sh | 66/46/c | 70/44/sh |
| Atlantic City | 56/38/s | 60/45/s | 58/42/c | 56/45/pc | 60/36/c |
| Austin/San Antonio | 78/58/pc | 76/60/pc | 72/56/sh | 70/50/pc | 76/54/s |
| Baltimore | 58/38/s | 62/44/s | 60/42/c | 56/42/pc | 62/30/c |
| Boston | 54/36/s | 56/40/pc | 52/40/sh | 52/38/pc | 51/39/c |
| Chicago | 52/38/sh | 52/34/c | 52/40/pc | 56/40/pc | 52/32/sh |
| Dallas/Ft. Worth | 77/57/s | 74/60/sh | 68/50/sh | 70/50/pc | 74/52/s |
| Denver | 66/34/s | 56/34/pc | 60/34/pc | 58/40/s | 68/30/s |
| Flagstaff | 62/27/s | 52/24/s | 58/25/s | 58/27/s | 62/25/s |
| Houston | 78/62/pc | 80/64/pc | 74/58/sh | 74/52/pc | 78/56/s |
| Kansas City | 63/46/pc | 61/34/pc | 58/44/s | 64/44/c | 58/32/pc |
| Las Vegas | 81/54/pc | 79/52/s | 83/54/s | 79/54/s | 81/51/s |
| Miami | 82/66/s | 84/68/s | 84/70/s | 84/70/s | 84/64/s |
| Minneapolis | 48/30/sh | 46/26/pc | 48/28/pc | 46/26/sh | 48/30/s |
| New Orleans | 74/58/pc | 80/62/pc | 76/62/c | 74/58/t | 77/52/pc |
| New York City | 56/38/s | 58/44/s | 56/42/c | 54/44/pc | 58/36/c |
| Philadelphia | 56/38/s | 60/44/s | 58/42/c | 56/44/pc | 60/34/c |
| Phoenix | 86/56/s | 74/54/pc | 78/54/s | 84/58/s | 88/52/s |
| Portland | 58/40/pc | 64/42/s | 66/42/s | 68/43/s | 65/51/s |
| San Francisco | 70/50/s | 72/52/s | 74/52/s | 72/52/s | 70/50/s |
| Seattle | 52/40/c | 56/42/pc | 58/42/s | 60/42/s | 60/44/s |
| Tucson | 88/48/s | 74/46/pc | 76/48/pc | 84/48/s | 86/44/s |
| Washington, DC | 58/40/s | 62/46/s | 60/44/c | 58/46/pc | 64/34/c |

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

AGRICULTURE

It will be a warm, dry day Thursday across the area with temperatures going up into the 80s. There is a slight chance of a shower Friday night, but that will be the only chance for some rain. A dry week after that with plenty of sunshine and seasonable temperatures.

All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2002

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