

NEWSBRIEFS

Socorro project

Mayor Irma Sanchez of the City of Socorro, the Texas Department of Transportation and the Mission Valley Business Alliance (MVBA) are holding a public meeting for the unveiling of the Socorro Road model for the Mission Trail. The purpose of the Socorro Road development project is to increase tourism and economic development. The project plans include street medallions with landscaping that recognize the historical significance of the area. "This is the first step in our plans to improve the area for tourism and make it more appealing for both visitors and business owners who are interested in expanding to our area," said Mayor Sanchez. The public meeting will be held on April 4, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sombras del Pasado restaurant, 10205 Socorro road. For more information call the City of Socorro at (915) 858-2915.

Avoiding PAIN

The El Paso County Traffic Warrant's Tax Force is conducting Operation PAIN this week in an attempt to clear up the 10,000 unpaid traffic tickets and warrants outstanding in the County. PAIN, an acronym for "Pay — Avoid Incarceration Now" will see officers visiting numerous residences and places of business throughout the County. A special amnesty period has been designated for April 1-30 for those who voluntarily go to the Justice of the Peace Court to clear up their debt. Except for JP Court 5, the other JP courts in the County will waive "Failure to Appear" warrants and fines for those who voluntarily act on these matters during the amnesty period. Amnesty does not apply to those arrested and does not extend past the April 30 deadline. The Task Force will continue to conduct announced and unannounced roundups, at least biannually, targeting traffic warrants, as a result of an organized plan adopted by the El Paso County Constables and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. For more information call the Sheriff's office.

Community builds

Canutillo Elementary School is making plans to put the finishing touch to its playground renovation project. A "Community Build" party to assemble playground equipment is scheduled to start at 8 a.m., Saturday, April 5, at the Canutillo Elementary School campus, 651 Canutillo Avenue. CES faculty, staff, parents, community members and business volunteers have been recruited to help with this special project. The renovated campus playground will also have walking paths, basketball courts, and grassy, playing fields for students to use during school hours as well as for community residents to enjoy after school and on weekends.

In other news

■ A ceremony to honor the U.S. fighting forces will be held Friday, April 4, at 9:45

See BRIEFS, Page 5

A good memory test is to recall all the kind things you have said about your neighbor.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photos contributed by Jesus Chavez

Cleanup effort brightens park and substation in Moon City

SOCORRO — Moon City in Socorro shines a little brighter after an intensive clean-up effort by the crew shown here. The half-day trash-assault was launched by Pct. 6 Justice of the Peace Ruben Lujan, Socorro High School assistant principal Jesus Chavez, SISD police/security/attendance officers, Socorro High School students, and City of Socorro community leaders on March 29. Some 43 students, like the unidenti-

fied volunteer (above right) gathered about five tons of trash, filling four trailers with some 250 bags. Moon City Park was cleared of trash and weeds and the basketball courts were swept clean. The Socorro Police Substation also benefited as ten of the Socorro Police Department patrol cars were given a good scrubbing. Judge Lujan said a clean-up effort is being coordinated for Horizon City in April and one for Fabens in May.

Clint volunteers ready for 17th Annual Trash-Off

CLINT — The Town of Clint will participate in the Don't Mess With Texas cleanup event on Saturday, April 5, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. beginning at 200 San Elizario Rd.

More than 1,300 groups are expected to participate on April 5 in the Don't Mess With Texas Trash-Off, one of the nation's largest single-day cleanups. Last year alone, one million pounds of trash were picked up by more than 70,000 Adopt-a-Highway and Keep Texas Beautiful volunteers all across Texas, making it one of the most successful years in Trash-Off history.

"The large number of volunteers who turn

out for monthly cleanup events shows that citizens are genuinely concerned with beautifying the state and the town of Clint," said Mayor Charles Gonzalez.

This year volunteers in Clint will pick up litter along three miles of FM Rd. 1110 from I-10 and four miles of Texas Highway 20 (Alameda). Keep Clint Beautiful and four other civic organizations will be participating.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided for all volunteers. Information and registration is at 851-3146 or visit www.dontmesswithtexas.org.

Canutillo HS sends five to OSHA competition

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

UPPER VALLEY — Canutillo High School Health Occupations students advance to state competition after placing among the top three finishers in area contests during the annual Area IV HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) leadership conference held in Lubbock recently.

Ruby Albidres, freshman, placed first in the speaking skills competition. Claudia Iglesias, junior, placed second in the medical spelling event. Last year, Iglesias went all the way to HOSA nationals where she won first place.



Canutillo High School Health Occupations students advancing to state HOSA competition are, from left, Daisy Moreno, Ruben Salinas, Ruby Albidres, Claudia Iglesias, and Claudia Gonzalez.

Also qualifying for state with third place finishes were: Daisy Moreno, sophomore, in prepared speaking, and Claudia Gonzales, sophomore, in veterinary assisting.

Ruben Salinas, senior, was one of four recipients to be awarded a \$500 scholarship by the Area IV HOSA chapters.

Over 700 students and instructors from high school and magnet school health occupations programs throughout West Texas including El Paso, Amarillo, Lubbock, Midland, Odessa, Abilene and San Angelo participated in the Area IV HOSA conference.

The purpose for the conference was to develop individual and team leadership and medical training skills through a variety of compe-

titions. Students competed in 46 health occupations events during the two-day conference. The top three finishers in each category advance to state finals, which will be held April 10-12, in Dallas.

"Texas HOSA has the largest state association in the United States with seven areas and nearly 10,000 student members," said Julie Vinikoff, CHS health science teacher and HOSA sponsor.

Even more ambitious than claiming the First Thanksgiving...

San Elizario and Quintanilla challenge the Texas Capitol with a pastry

By Velia B. Duran
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — San Elizario will be the site of "The Great Texas Sopaipilla Festival" on Saturday, April 5 as the San Elizario


Middle School and District 75 State Rep. Innocente "Chente" Quintanilla enjoy a sopaipilla.

The event, 2-5 p.m., at the SEMS cafeteria, will commemorate Quintanilla filing a bill (House Concurrent Resolution 92) on March 13, 2003 to establish the sopaipilla as the Official Pastry of the State of Texas at the request of students participating in "The Great Texas Sopaipilla Exploration Project."

The goal of the project is to study the origin and history of the Texas sopaipilla as an after-school activity to inspire and motivate students to make achievements in reading. It was also to be their birthday present to the Great State of Texas. The project is sponsored by the Star Day Foundation of Galveston County to encourage Texas public schools to celebrate Texas' birth date annually on Feb. 19, helping students think of themselves as future pioneers and leaders of our state.

There are 18 students of San Elizario Middle School and Socorro High School that have volunteered to participate, as well as

See SOPAIPILLA, Page 4



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Reality check

Life hurts.

It is a fact so simple, so self-evident, you'd think everyone would recognize and accept it. But they don't.

Most mature folks realize that becoming an adult means little more than learning how to handle pain, disappointment and grief without becoming a major source of pain to those around us.

Other folks have made a career out of pretending that nothing can, should, or does hurt. And they will go to almost any length to prove that lie.



It is a pure and simple fact that our bodies are designed to grow old, progressively become more uncomfortable and eventually just give out on us. This is a progression that takes place if we are lucky. If we aren't our lives are probably going to be cut short in some far less pleasant fashion.

No matter who we are — no matter how rich, talented, or privileged — the ride is going to end for everybody, and it will be far shorter than most of us would like.

In our efforts to distract ourselves from this unpleasant truth we will dress inappropriately, spend hours and fortunes on ineffective cosmetic procedures and products, and “renew” ourselves through a variety of physical and mental gymnastics. Most of the aging actors and actresses



hol, fast cars, infidelity and breaking the law, all of which are effective methods to put us out of our misery even sooner.

None of it will stop the relentless march of time.

There are many people in this country who believe we have an inalienable right to never hurt at all. Or sacrifice. Or do without. Or be lonely, or uncomfortable, or have to struggle, or make hard decisions, or accept the consequences of our personal behavior.

Some ethereal force known as The Government (also sometimes referred to as Parents) is supposed to have taken care of all of this for us — in advance.

You see this attitude reflected in the news these days, especially since we didn't somehow magically obliterate the evil in Iraq in the first week — without spilling a drop of civilian or U.S. military blood. One young person lamented that he couldn't believe the war was actually already in its second week — “I never thought it could last this long,” he said.

Somebody forgot to assign this boy a history lesson on World Wars I and II, not to mention Vietnam or Korea.

One genius of a young woman said that it is wrong to send U.S. soldiers into combat because “not everyone joined the military to fight.” That's it! What we really need is a pain-free military!

Unfortunately, we have created for ourselves a generation so spoiled by our national blessings that they believe the military is some kind of government job corps program.

I have to change the news channel when our self-anointed guardians of national virtue — otherwise known as Hollywood — begin to chide our President, lament over the sad fate of the Iraqi civilians, and otherwise declare How Things Should Be from the height of their ivory towers. I feel sorry for the Iraqi people, too. But I'm nowhere stupid enough to believe war doesn't hurt all parties involved or that I'm qualified to lecture our leadership.

It would be interesting to watch the revelation take place if Susan Sarandon suddenly was forced to switch places with POW Shoshana Johnson.

Talk about a reality check.

30 Years

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Member Texas Community Newspaper Association

Phone: 852-3235
Fax: 852-0123
E-mail: wtxcc@wtccourier.com


Publisher
Rick Shrum

Business Manager
Francis D. Shrum

Contributors
Don Woodyard
Steve Escajeda
Arleen Beard



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Reyes Reports

By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Aid essential for military families

As we know all too well in El Paso, the brave soldiers of our nation's armed forces are now engaged in the largest armed conflict in a generation. Some of our men and women have been taken prisoner, some have been injured, and others have tragically perished while fighting for their country. Our thoughts and prayers are with the troops and their families and loved ones, and we will continue to keep them in our prayers in the days and weeks ahead.

Over 4,000 brave soldiers from Fort Bliss have been deployed to the Middle East in the past few months, leaving behind thousands of family members right here in El Paso. We all know that the heart of our military strength is our people. Our soldiers must leave behind their spouses and children each time they are deployed. In return, the very least we can do is commit to taking good care of their families while they are away defending our nation.

Impact Aid is one program that is essential to the well-being of our military families. Impact Aid provides funds to school districts that are impacted by a federal presence, such as a military base. Because the local governments impacted by a federal presence are unable to collect sufficient funds through income taxes, schools on or near military bases depend heavily on Impact Aid funding to make up the difference. Shockingly, at the same time that our troops are being deployed in record numbers and for record lengths of time, the Administration proposed a 12 percent, or \$128.5 million cut in Impact Aid funding.

I'm a proud member of the House Impact Aid Coalition, a group comprised of members of the U.S. House of Representatives committed to supporting Impact Aid funding. Faced with proposed funding cuts, we worked with other members of Congress to restore funding levels for Impact Aid. As a result, funds in the 2004 budget were restored at the last hour, and increased by \$20 million over the 2003 funding level. As a result, \$1.9 billion in Impact Aid funding is included in the budget resolution for the coming year, but there's no guarantee that this program will not be placed on the chopping block once again in years to come. Congress and the Administration have an obligation to fully fund Impact Aid. Even in these tough fiscal times, we must make funds available for this essential program.

The importance of Impact Aid hits home in El Paso. Nearly 15 percent of the El Paso Independent School District's annual budget comes from Impact Aid funding. Ysleta ISD also receives a significant amount of Impact Aid funding. Nationwide, 15 million students in 1,331 school districts benefit from Impact Aid funding.

We often ask members of the armed forces to do more with less. They must move often, compounding the stress felt by every family. We are now asking our men and women in uniform to do more — to possibly sacrifice everything to keep us safe here at home. It would be unthinkable for us to send our troops into combat with substandard equipment. It is equally unthinkable to ask them to send their children to school with substandard support.

Write stuff

Dear Editor:

Canutillo ISD voters are getting ready to elect new board members. One of the candidates running for school board (previously) resigned his seat so his wife would get a secretary position at Central Office.

Carl Fietze should know that board members are elected to serve the community and children of the district. But when a board member resigns his seat for personal gain he is not fulfilling his obligation to the community or the school's needs. He should be ashamed of himself.

To think that voters would vote for him — I know I wouldn't vote for him knowing that he is only there for personal gain.

Voters should know this before they go out and vote.

**Johnny Gauna
Canutillo**

Dear Editor:

In last week's issue you printed a letter from (Socorro City Representative) Gloria Rodriguez outlining the accomplishments that the council has reached so far this year. What Ms. Rodriguez fails to mention is that without the support and diligent work Mayor (Irma) Sanchez has done, these

goals would have never been met.

Ms. Rodriguez also fails to mention the actions of the other member of the council. It seems their main concern is to find a way to sabotage any action which the mayor or the Civil Service Commission is involved in. It seems (they) are not even prepared for weekly meetings and have not read the agenda which is made available to them days before the meetings.

It has been brought to my attention that certain members of council are holding neighborhood meetings with the residents of Socorro and blasting the mayor and the job they say she is not doing. The council members are pushing the blame to Mayor Sanchez for things that are not being accomplished when it is their incompetence which should be questioned.

The Civil Service Commission, please correct me if I am mistaken, is a commission which is appointed by members of the council to address matters regarding the employee's of the city and to recommend action which they feel should be taken.

It seems that council has forgotten that they themselves appointed these representatives. If you were to pull council records, you would find that the Civil Service Commission has made multiple recommendations that have been voted down without explanation.

At the last council meeting, Ms. Rodriguez addressed the council and read aloud a list of negative statements regarding the Civil Service Commission and the mayor. Not only was this inappropriate, it was undocumented.

It should be noted that the Civil Service Commission and the mayor do not have any voting power whatsoever. The mayor never votes on any issues before council unless there is a tie. So any actions the council takes or declines to take is due to the council members themselves.

I feel the citizens of Socorro deserve an explanation from each and every individual council member and they in turn should be held responsible for their actions.

Also I would like for the council to explain how they have come to the conclusion that the mayor is solely responsible for the way the city is being run.

The citizens of Socorro need to wake up and smell the coffee. We are no longer a one-horse town. We need to hold our politicians responsible for their actions. If the council were to spend more time backing our mayor which we elected and less time undermining her efforts, the City of Socorro would finally come out from behind the shadow of the City of El Paso.

**Rudy Ortiz
Socorro**

Canutillo ISD bond election early voting underway

**By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier**

CANUTILLO — Early voting for Canutillo Independent School District's \$12.3 million bond issue election is currently underway. Canutillo ISD voters may cast their ballots by personal appearance week-

days until Tuesday, April 8.

Early voting is from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Canutillo Elementary School, 651 Canutillo Avenue; and from 3 to 6 p.m. at Vinton Town Hall, 436 Vinton Road.

Election day voting is from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, April 12, at Canutillo Elementary School and Vinton Town Hall.

Canutillo ISD Board of Trustees' bond issue proposal includes \$7.3 million to enhance the plans for the new high school making it bigger and better and \$5 million to provide additions and improvements to the other six existing school campuses.

For more information, call 877-7481.

Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla



Bill will provide tax help for the elderly

Hola mi gente - This message is aimed primarily at all our elderly citizens — especially to those who reside in El Paso's Lower Valley, the Eastside, and those who reside in the District I represent — District 75 — this is your friend Chente Quintanilla bringing you the latest in legislative news from our State Capital.

I'm still working to represent the best interests of all my constituents. However, this time I am focusing on news which will impact our senior citizens.

Today, I want to talk to you about a bill which I recently co-authored. I believe that House Bill (HB)136 will especially help those of our citizens who are elderly, retired, and who need a tax break where it counts the most — maintaining their homes on a fixed income.

HB 136 would extend the tax ceilings for qualified homeowners age 65 or older to all counties and cities or towns in our great state of Texas. Currently, the tax ceiling only applies to those who reside within ISDs (Independent School Districts). However, under this new legislation, which was introduced by Rep. Fred Brown — this bill would amend the Texas Constitution to freeze property taxes for senior citizens.

Brown, who is a Republican from College Station, assured me that he is confident the measure will pass this

year. If it passes, it would then go to a vote in the November general election. Again, the reason I signed on to this bill as co-author is that I believe that we need to give some tax relief to our elderly population — a population which subsists primarily on fixed incomes, and who struggle to survive with very little money coming in to their coffers.

Brown thinks that if people vote against this bill, they would essentially be voting against everything we hold near and dear to our hearts. I personally believe that HB 136 will have far-reaching consequences. It will even come in handy to me and to my colleagues in our later years — when we retire, also on fixed incomes. Many of you might know that senior citizens in Brazos County are already being protected from having their taxes increased by school districts. Not only that, but they can claim a \$75,000 deduction on their county taxes. The situation for them is win-win. We want the same for the senior citizens in our communities.

The way this proposed bill would work is this: tax freezes would be set at the local level. Now, if it's approved locally, the taxes for residents age 65 and older would not increase as rates and property values go up in coming years. Not only that, but protection from future tax increases would extend to spouses over age 55, should a property owner die.

This means, my fellow El Pasoans, that if you are the property owner and you die — your surviving spouse would also

For Sanity's Sake By Taprina Milburn

The world's oldest profession

My parenting experience is often like my experience with machinery: How does it work?

Before I had kids, I guessed that all the information I'd need to be a good mother would be given to me between the epidural and final delivery. It still amazes me that they let me leave the hospital with my children.

I may not always know what I'm doing, but I don't have to tell you about the wonders of maternal instinct — that indescribable bond that takes place and forever endears you to those children who when small, cling to your leg whenever you try to walk out the door; the same children who nowadays take the last of your change before *they* walk out the door.

If I were to gather a group of moms (excluding those who can quote page 10, paragraph three of "The Guide to Perfect Parenting.") The rest of us lost our copies somewhere between potty training and trips to the emergency room), I believe we'd find that many of us in the world's oldest profession have been tempted to shout: We should get paid for this!

But nice moms aren't supposed to say things like that, are we? It goes against some mothering code of ethics to let on that we don't have this job completely figured out. That there are days when our blunders outnumber the wonders of parenting, days when we flip on the radio to talk-show guru Dr. Laura and realize that, according to her parenting advice, we've damaged our children for life.

Nor are we to admit that occasionally we feel like running away from home, leaving notes, of course, to remind our families about dentist appointments and science-fair projects.

Or that when the kids fight about an invisible turf line in the middle of the couch or over the last of the crushed Doritos, that we dream about a cozy, red brick empty nest, where the couch is ours and never again has crud lodged between the cushions.

Sure, we're more likely to tell you that on a good day when our children call out "Mom" we beam with pride and think: *That's my kid*. We're less likely to tell you that on the day the child said it, while rolling her eyes and giving tips on how to be a cool mom (meaning you've missed the mark many times over), we wanted to find the nearest zoo and direct her to the lion's den.

Nice moms don't admit these things mostly because we have short memories. That's why we don't run away, because we'd forget where we planned to go. And home, although it's full of sibling fights and endless piles of laundry, is where our hearts are. It's where we're going to have our parenting mistakes and successes, where eventually, I'm told, we learn to do our job well and the wonders outshine the blunders.

And any amount of money wouldn't compare to the rewards of the world's oldest profession.

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23 Socorro High seniors accepted at UT-Austin

At least 21 Socorro High School seniors have received scholarships to the University of Texas at Austin. Of the 33 students who applied for admission, 23 were accepted — and 21 of those received scholarships ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per student.

"I understand we have the highest acceptance rate of any high school in the state of Texas," says Ralph Farmer, head counselor for Socorro High School. "We have worked to establish a 'culture of college' here at Socorro High. The faculty has certainly supported the counseling department by teaching, and by encouraging capable students. Another reason is the magnet programs we have here, such as the Health Occupations magnet school."

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NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT
IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE
OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Town of Clint
PO Box 350
Clint, Texas 79836

West Texas County Courier
April 3, 2003

TO: All Interested Agencies, Groups and Persons:

Seventeen (17) days after this publication, the Town of Clint, Texas, intends to request the Texas Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-383) for Project No. FY 2002 PENDING.

Environmental Assessment Activities

New Water Line Installation in the Burbridge Acres and Eubank Subdivision, being within the incorporated limits of the Town of Clint includes:

Water and Sewer System Improvements and Connections:

- Installation of approximately 3,475 LF of 6” PVC pipe.
- Installation of approximately 2,865 LF of 8” PVC pipe.
- Installation of approximately 2,000 LF of sewer PVC pipe.
- 32 water service connections/hook-ups and all related valves and appurtenances.
- 12 sewer service connections/hookups and all related valves and appurtenances.

Finding of No Significant Impact

It has been determined that such a request of release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly the Town of Clint has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190). The reason for such a decision not to prepare such a Statement is based upon the fact that all environmental concerns could either be minimized or mitigated.

An Environmental Review Record for the proposed project has been made by the County of El Paso which documents the environmental review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such a statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file and comments may be forwarded to Town of Clint, Town Hall PO Box 350, Clint, Texas 79836, and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Public Comments on Findings

All interested agencies, groups and persons, disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Town of Clint to the address as set forth above. Such written comments must be received at the address specified within sixteen (16) days after this publication. All such comments so received will be considered and the Town will not request the release of funds or take administrative action on the project prior to the date specified in the proceeding sentence.

Release of Funds

The Town of Clint will undertake the activities described above with Small Town Environment Program funds under Title I from its Program Year 2002 under grant number PENDING from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The Town of Clint is certifying to ORCA that Mr. Charles E. Gonzalez, in his official capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the Town of Clint may use the STEP Grant funds, and it will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. ORCA will accept an objection to its approval only on one or more of the basis and the procedures described in 24 CFR Part 58.75. Objections are to be addressed to the Office of Rural Community Affairs, P. O. Box 13941, Austin, Texas 78711.

Objections to the release of funds on basis other than those stated above will not be considered by the Office of Rural Community Affairs. No objections received later than thirty-three (33) days after this publication will be considered by ORCA.

Chalres E. Gonzalez, Mayor
PO Box 350
200 N. San Elizario Rd.
Clint, Texas 79836

Sopaipilla

From Page 1

four Tigua Indian middle school students.

The project received a gift of a four-volume set of books featuring the origin and history of the Tigua Indian Nation from the Tigua Indian Reservation of Texas to help guide the students in their quest to learn about the origin and history of the Texas pastry. The students learned that the sopaipilla has its earliest Texas roots in the present-day El Paso County area. It was pioneered as Tigua Indian Fry Bread based on the early use of wheat flour and lard introduced to this region in the 17th

century by the Spanish Mission Friars. They also learned that the Texas sopaipilla may be considered as the earliest well-known Texas pastry.

The community of El Paso County is invited to visit the Festival, to enjoy sopaipilla and learn more about the student’s project. It will also be an opportunity to become involved as donations are being sought to help a delegation of students who will visit the State Capitol in Austin and given testimony in support of the bill.

Velia B. Duran is the San Elizario Middle School sponsor of The Great Texas Sopaipilla Exploration Project, assisted by Vicki Cebollo, a teacher at the Tigua Indian Reservation. For further information, Duran can be reached at 872-3939, ext. 3324.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
El Paso County Water Authority

The El Paso County Water Authority (EPCWA) will hold a BOND ELECTION on May 3, 2003.

A PUBLIC MEETING concerning the bond election is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2003, at the Oz Glaze Senior Citizen Center, 13969 Veny Webb, Horizon City, Texas. The purpose of this public meeting will be to allow the EPCWA Board of Directors to discuss the bond issue and answer any questions.

All citizens are encouraged to attend this public meeting and present their views to EPCWA Directors. The Oz Glaze Senior Citizen Center is accessible to the disabled; individuals should contact Mildred Way to arrange for special assistance or a translator. If you cannot attend in person, written comments may be submitted and will be accepted by the EPCWA until this public meeting is concluded.

For further information concerning the bond election please contact Mildred Way at (915) 852-3917 during normal business hours. The EPCWA office is located at 1539 Pawling, Horizon City, Texas 79928.

WTCC: 04/03/03

Public Notice
Town of Clint

Order of Cancellation

The Town of Clint hereby cancels the election scheduled to be held on May 3, 2003, in accordance with Section 2.053(a) of the Texas Election Code. The following candidates have been certified as unopposed and are hereby elected as follows:

Orden de Cancelación

El Pueblo de Clint por la presente cancela la elección que, de lo contrario, se hubiera celebrado el día tres (3) de mayo de conformidad, con la Sección 2.053(a) del Código de Elecciones de Texas. Los siguientes candidatos han sido certificados como candidatos únicos y por la presente quedan elegidos como se haya indicado a continuación:

Candidates (Candidatos)

Francisco Montes and Steven Cheatum

Office Sought (Cargo a que presenta candidatura)

Alderman

A copy of this order will be posted on Election Day at each polling place that would have been used in the election. El día de las Elecciones se exhibirá una copia de esta orden en todas las mesas electorales que se hubieran utilizado en la elección.

Jessica Garza
Secretary (Secretario)

March 25, 2003
Date of Adoption (Fecha de adopción)

Briefs

From Page 1

a.m. at the Horizon City Town Hall. The city has joined with the Horizon City Fire Department in inviting schools in the area to participate by releasing yellow balloons at 10 a.m. The public is invited to attend the ceremony and to pickup yellow ribbons to show support for the troops.

■ Canutillo Independent School District Wellness Program will host its Eighth Annual Wellness Walk, from 7 to 11 a.m. on Saturday , April 12, at the Franklin Mountain State Park. The event is an open walk activity to allow participants to complete their walking exercises any time during the scheduled event. Free door prizes, water bottles, and healthy food snacks will be available. The wellness walk is free and open to the public. T-shirts will be presented to the first 300 participants. For more information, call 877-7433.

■ Ken Osmond, President of the Board of Directors of the El Paso County Water Authority MUD will be the guest speaker at the regular meeting of the Horizon City Kiwanis Club on Saturday, April 5 at 8:30 a.m. Osmond will discuss the long-term plans of the EPCWA including the upcoming bond referendum. The club meets at the Oz Glaze Senior Center and the public is invited to attend.

■ Membership has its privileges, the saying goes. On March 1 the U.S. Border Patrol became part of the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, a new agency within the Department of Homeland Security. On March 28 the El Paso Sector unveiled two high-tech helicopters in a special ceremony — the American Eurocopter AS350 “A-Star” and the UH-1H “Huey.” The A-Star was made available through funding provided by Congress earmarked for increased border security and counter-terrorism.

■ The El Paso County Library in Fabens will celebrate National Library Week with live music, punch and cookies on April 10 from 2-4 p.m. at 1331 N. Fabens St., (915) 764-3635. National Library Week which runs April 14-20, highlights all the benefits a thriving library system can provide to a community.

■ Friends and co-workers of Jerry L. Armstrong gathered at Cattleman’s Steakhouse on March 28 to bid the Deputy Chief of the El Paso Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol their best wishes in his retirement. An agent for 32 years, Armstrong’s service included four years with the U.S. Marine Corps as a decorated veteran of the Vietnam war. Armstrong will retire to Sierra Vista, Arizona where he plans to ranch with his wife, Carmen.

■ Desert Hills Elementary in Horizon City will hold registration for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten for the 2003-2004 school year on April 2-3 from 1-6 p.m., and on April 4 from 1-

3:30 p.m. For more information call 852-4881.

■ Hueco Elementary school hosted a ceremony Monday in tribute to the U.S. soldiers missing in action or killed in recent weeks. Students, teachers and community members gathered to hear words of dedication and view a commemorative wall featuring pictures of community members serving in the military, according to Hueco Principal Keith McClellan. At Benito Martinez Elementary school they are collecting personal care items to be sent on to troops fighting in the deserts of Iraq, according to Principal Jesse Bombach. Walter E. Clarke Middle School, meanwhile, wants to help the soldiers stay in touch by gathering pens, pencils, stationery, envelopes and other supplies to be sent to the soldiers, said Principal Debbie Livingston.

■ Marine Corps Pvt. Carlos R. Barraza Cabrera, son of Maria and Vicente Barraza, recently completed 12 weeks of basic training in San Diego, learning about hand-to-hand combat and water survival,

marksmanship, weapons, first aid, uniform regulations and more. Cabrera is a 2002 graduate of Socorro High School.

■ Navy Hospitalman Maria G. Arroyo, daughter of Herminia and Manuel Arroyo of San Elizario, was recently named Junior Sailor of the Year at the Naval Hospital in Charleston, South Carolina. She was recognized with the “Giraffe Award,” which is given to staff who “sticks their neck out” to go above and beyond to serve the patients and facility where they work. Arroyo is a 2001 graduate of Silva Magnet High School in El Paso.

■ Lorenzo G. Loya Primary School, 13705 Socorro Rd., is hosting it’s annual Career Awareness Day on Friday, April 25 from 8-12 p.m. The school is extending an invitation to any San Elizario graduate or resident to be a career awareness presenter. The campus serves children from early childhood (three years old) to kindergarten (six years old.) Call Charlie Guerra at 872-3940 for more information. Meanwhile, the students at Loya School raised over

\$1,500 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s annual Pennies for Patients program. The program is sponsored by the New Mexico/ El Paso Leukemia & Lymphoma chapter. Mrs. Alyssa Cadena’s pre-kindergarten class won a pizza party for collecting over \$500.

■ The Socorro High Bulldogs have been busy the last few weeks. Socorro’s dance troupe, the Missionettes, won a sweepstakes for team officers, best in class for medium ensemble and runner-up for duet with Miguel Mendoza and Angie Rubio during the recent competition in San Antonio. Briza Alvarado won public speaking at the Future Business Leaders of America’s state competition and will now advance to national competition. Patrick Carillo won a second place in the Future Business Leaders of America’s state competition and will advance to nationals. Ten SHS students have been placed for honors from the State Board of Education’s Celebration of Educational Excellence Award. Three SHS students, Ivette Jasso, Jennifer Tapia and Erika Marquez, have been selected to participate in

the Rotary Club of El Paso Youth Leadership Camp in Albuquerque this summer.

■ A new ordinance regulating false alarms was passed by the Horizon City Council on Feb. 11 requiring all existing alarm holders and new installations to obtain an alarm permit from the town of Horizon City. The three-year permit fee is \$30 for residential alarms and \$60 for commercial. If there are no false alarms reported within those three years, the renewal permit is free. Five false alarms within the preceding 12 months is cause for a fine of \$50 for each occurrence after the fifth alarm is confirmed. Continuous violations may result in revocation of the alarm permit by the Chief of Police. The enforcement date by the Police Department is May 5, 2003. Copies of the new ordinance are available at the Town Hall Municipal Building. All permits are being issued by the Public Works Department after approval of the application and payment of the alarm fee. All existing must also be approved and registered with the Town of Horizon City.

CITY OF HORIZON CITY
PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC ELECTION

In accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and the Horizon City Charter, a public election will be held in the City of Horizon City, El Paso County, Texas on May 3, 2003, for the purpose of:

Electing one (1) Mayor and three (3) Aldermen for the City of Horizon City as required by the Charter for the following places:

- Mayor for two (2) years
- Place 3 for two (2) years
- Place 5 for two (2) years
- Place 7 for two (2) years

EARLY VOTING

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted from **8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 16 - April 29, 2003** on each day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday at:

Oz Glaze Senior Center
13969 Veny Webb, Horizon City, Texas 79928

THIS IS NOT AN ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACE.

EARLY VOTING BY MAIL

Requests for **early voting ballots by mail** must be signed by voter and sent to:
COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR
500 E. SAN ANTONIO AVE.
EL PASO, TEXAS 79901
or faxed to: 915-546-2220
For information call 915-546-2154

ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACES: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Polling location for voters in **Part of Precinct 147** - Horizon Heights Elementary School, 13601 Ryderwood Ave.

Polling location for voters in **Part of Precinct 157** and **Part of Precinct 167** - Desert Hills Elementary School, 300 Eastlake Dr.

Sandra Sierra
City Clerk

Municipio de Horizon City
Aviso Publico

ELECCION PUBLICA

De acuerdo a las leyes del estado de Texas y la cedula del Municipio de Horizon City, se llevara acabo una eleccion publica en el Municipio de Horizon City, Condado de El Paso, Texas el dia 3 de mayo 2003, el proposito de esta eleccion es para lo siguiente:

Elegir un (1) Alcalde y tres (3) regidores para que sirvan al Municipio de Horizon City como lo indica la cedula para los siguientes lugares:

- Alcalde por dos (2) años
- Posicion 3 por dos (2) años
- Posicion 5 por dos (2) años
- Posicion 7 por dos (2) años

VOTACION TEMPRANA

Votación temprana por apariencia en persona se llevara a cabo de 8 a.m. - **5p.m. abril 16 - abril 29, 2003**, en todos los dias que no sean sabado, domingo, o día oficial de vacaciones estatales, en el:

Oz Glaze Senior Center
13969 Veny Webb, Horizon City, Texas 79928

ESTE NO ES UN SITIO O DIA DE ELECCION

VOTACION TEMPRANA POR CORREO

Peticiones de balotas **para votación temprana por correo** debe ser firmado por el votante y ser enviado al:
County Election Administrator
500 E. San Antonio Ave.
El Paso, Texas 79901
o lo puede hacer fax al numero: (915) 546-2220
Para mas información por favor llame al numero: (915) 546-2154

SITIO DE VOTACION Y HORARIO DE 7 A.M. - 7 P.M.
El sitio de votación para dentro **parte de el recinto 147** se localiza en la escuela Horizon Heights Elementary, 13601 Ryderwood Ave.

El sitio de votación para **parte de el recinto 157 y parte de el recinto recinto 167** se localiza en la escuela Desert Hills Elementary, 300 Eastlake Drive.

Sandra Sierra
City Clerk

NFL owners’ meeting requires extra room to hold the egos

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Any time you put all the NFL owners in a room together you’ve got a collection of some of the best business minds in the world... unfortunately, they’d get no further than the mailroom when it comes to their knowledge of football.

During the recent NFL owner’s meetings the ba-zillionaires had a chance to fix something that needed fixing — the NFL’s overtime rule.

You know the rule I’m talking about, if a team wins the coin flip it can receive the kickoff, go right down the field and kick a field goal and win the game.

That’s it, game over. The other team doesn’t even get a chance. Doesn’t sound fair does it?

The owners were considering changing the rules to let both teams have possession of the ball at least one time each. But they couldn’t even agree on that.

So far, the only thing the owners have unanimously agreed upon is that they love money more than anything else on the planet.

What’s so hard? One team wins the coin flip, they receive the ball or they kickoff, the team

that gets possession either scores or punts or whatever. Then the other team gets the ball, they score or punt or whatever. If both teams remain tied after they’ve each had a possession, then the game goes to sudden death from that point forward.

What is so hard? This is football, not income tax preparation.

The owners also failed to come to an agreement on whether they should increase the number of playoff teams. That one’s a no-brainer... (no, I won’t, that’s too easy).

Puhleeeze, *do not* increase the playoff structure. The playoffs are fine the way they are.

Let’s face it, with the likes of Jerry Jones, Al Davis and Daniel Snyder, I’m just surprised they found a venue large enough to hold all that ego-overflow.

Owners, fix the overtime rule, leave the playoffs alone, and give this message to Jerry Jones... “No more facelifts.”

Don’t be like Mike

Mike Hampton could have been one of the great ones.

A young pitcher who rose to fame with the Houston Astros, Hampton was considered one of the top five starting pitchers in the National

League.

But like most of the young players of today, Hampton was loyal to one thing and one thing only...his wallet.

After compiling a 69-40 record with Houston, Hampton got greedy when his contract was up and signed with the highest bidder, the New York Mets.

After spending just one season with the Mets, Hampton then signed for two seasons with the Colorado Rockies. In those three seasons Hampton won 36 games and lost 38. Heck, Hampton was so bad that his ERA ballooned to 6.15 last year.

Well, Hampton is trying it again this season with the Atlanta Braves. With all the pitching success the Braves have enjoyed over the last decade, a lot will be expected from the lefty.

You know Hampton is going to do everything he can to prove that he’s still got it.

So what does Hampton go out and do on the eve of the Braves opener this season? He goes on the 15-day disabled list after suffering — and I’m not kidding — a treadmill accident.

I don’t know about you but I’ve been on a treadmill many times and I’ve never even had to wear a seatbelt.

How does one suffer a treadmill accident?

Well, Hampton said he was on the 17th minute of a 20-minute workout when he felt some pain in his right leg.

We’ll see you in a couple weeks, Mike, and please, think about having an airbag installed into your treadmill.

Win a few, lose a few

It’s no secret that Lenny Wilkens has recorded more coaching victories than anyone else in NBA history, which is a record to be proud of.

A not-so-prestigious record will soon belong to Wilkens as well. Wilkens will now be the coach with the most losses in NBA history.

As of last Sunday, Wilkens’ team, the Toronto Raptors (22-49), were just one loss away from recording their 50th of the year. That loss will also be the 1,106th of Wilkens’ career tying him with Bill Fitch.

Wilkens, who has won 1,290 games, has never coached any really great teams in his career, he’s just coached a lot of games in his career.

I’ve never thought of Wilkens as a particularly good coach but I’ll give him this, the fact that he is in the Hall of Fame is all well and good, but to put up with today’s selfish athlete for this many games, he should receive a purple heart.

Town of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at **6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8, 2003** during the **Regular City Council Meeting** at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed ordinance(s):

1) Proposed Ordinance No. 0105, an ordinance regulating school zones and speed limits within the territorial limits of the Town of Horizon City.

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

Sandra Sierra
City Clerk

WTCC: 04/03/03

Canutillo High School students represent El Paso County at Houston Livestock Show

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

UPPER VALLEY — Students in the Canutillo High School FFA (Future Farmers of America) program gained valuable experience as participants of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo that was held in March at the Reliant Center.

Canutillo High senior Amanda Garcia and juniors Ferrell Searls, Felix Barron, and Leo Rivera participated with students throughout the southwest in the goat and calf shows. Searls earned a fifth place in the calf scramble and a ninth place in the Junior Breeding Heifer show. He received \$250 for his efforts.

Assisting these students was Ron Gil, Canutillo Ag-science teacher and FFA sponsor. “Preparing for livestock shows always helps develop a sense of discipline, cooperation and

pride within students,” Gil said.

“This was my second year participating in livestock shows and they

have helped me become more responsible — now, I am planning to major in animal science in college,”



MAKING A GOOD SHOW — Canutillo High School FFA students participate in Houston Livestock & Rodeo Show. Shown from left are Felix Barron, Leo Rivera, Amanda Garcia, and Ferrell Searls.

King Super Crossword

BEFORE AND AFTER

- ACROSS**
- 1 Warts and all
5 Model Beverly
10 Desert growth
15 27th president
19 Comic Carvey
20 Fills the hold
21 TV's "Full _"
22 Sutherland solo
23 HEAD STARTS
27 Dogpatch's Daisy _
28 Patriot Nathan
29 Sherwood sight
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37 Medical measure
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70 Unduly
72 "Como _ usted?"
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78 Lear, to Cordelia
80 Missouri mountain range
81 Jergens or Astaire
82 Intimate
84 _ kwon do
87 HAPPY ENDINGS
91 Long or Peebles
92 Caffeine effect
93 "Trinity" author
94 A speck with wings
95 Connecticut campus
96 Cardiff's country
98 French philosopher
100 Light touch
103 Silence a squeaker
104 He had a golden touch
105 Insect stage
106 Soothe
108 Welles role
109 Clothing
110 Sound like a hound
113 GRAND FINALES
119 Geraint's lady
120 Crazy as _
121 Actress
Witherspoon
122 At any time
123 Contradict
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126 "Saving Private _" ('98 film)

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5 Delight
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7 Add fringe
8 Aspin or Paul
9 Sixth sense
10 Rose of _
11 Actor Wendell
12 Discourteous
13 Take advantage of
14 "Golden Girl" Arthur
15 Forbidden
16 Antilles isle
17 Stable youngster
18 Spoken for
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25 Raison d'_
26 Sleuth Nancy
31 Delivery trucks
32 Cavalry soldier
33 Decorate glass
34 Philatelist's purchase
35 Columnist Herb
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39 Location
40 Brad of "The Mexican"
41 Pamper
- 43 Cook Claiborne
44 Obsolete title
45 Musty
46 Summons electronically
47 Actor's actor?
49 _ -jongg
50 Approximately
51 They're what's left
52 Book part
53 Vane dir.
54 Sundance's sweetie
61 Post or Dickinson
62 Sunday supper
63 Stash
64 "On the Waterfront" director
65 Japanese porcelain
66 _ firma
68 Act like Vikings?
71 Effluvia
74 Enjoy the Alps
76 Uncluttered
77 A great many
79 Strauss' "_ Rosenkavalier"
81 On _ (doing great)
83 Baseball's Aparicio
84 Add color
85 Fruit-tree spray
86 Punta del _
88 California resort
89 A shake in the grass?
90 Taj town
95 Mr. Ma
96 Actress Ryder

- 97 125 Across' city
98 Unexpected
99 Lhasa _
100 Sealed
101 Skirt shape
102 Unadorned
104 Hardy's "The _ of Casterbridge"
105 Vital sign
107 He's Devine
108 It may be square
109 See 118 Down
110 Bunch of birds
111 Bailiwick
112 Knitter's need
114 Purrfect pet?
115 Barley beverage
116 Summon mommy
117 Bray beginning
118 With 109 Down, a way to pay

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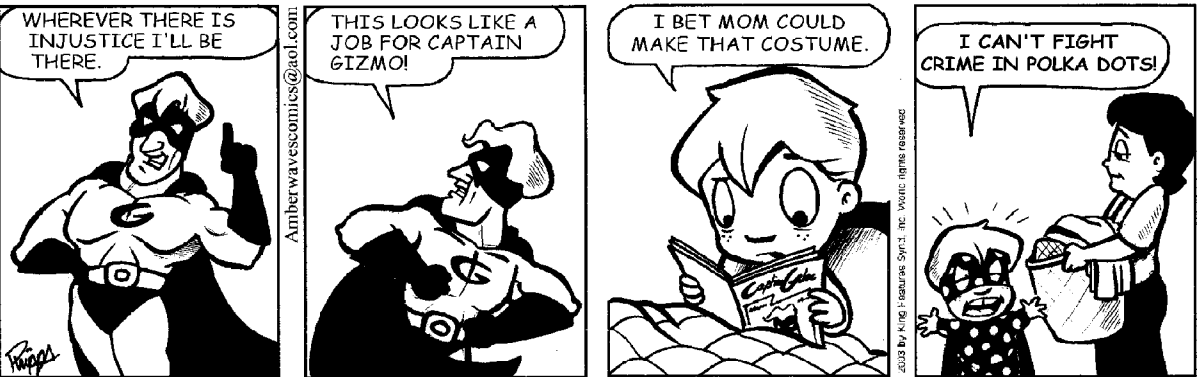
OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



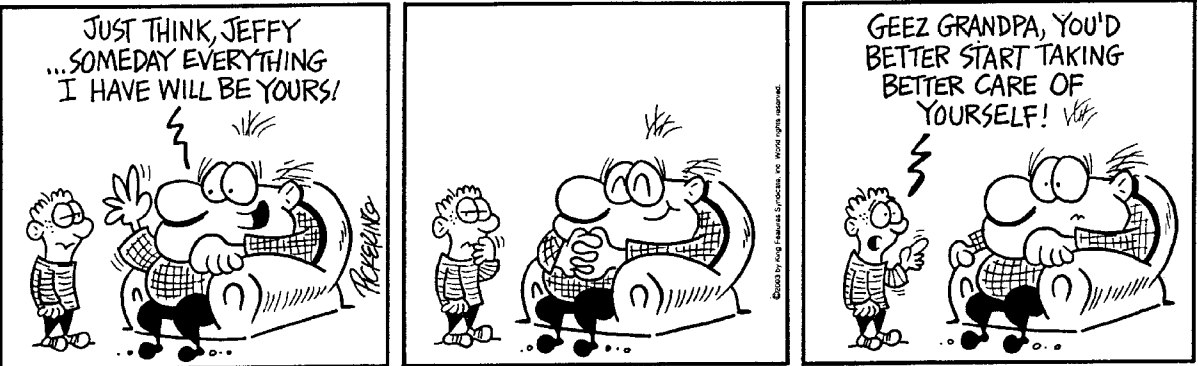
AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



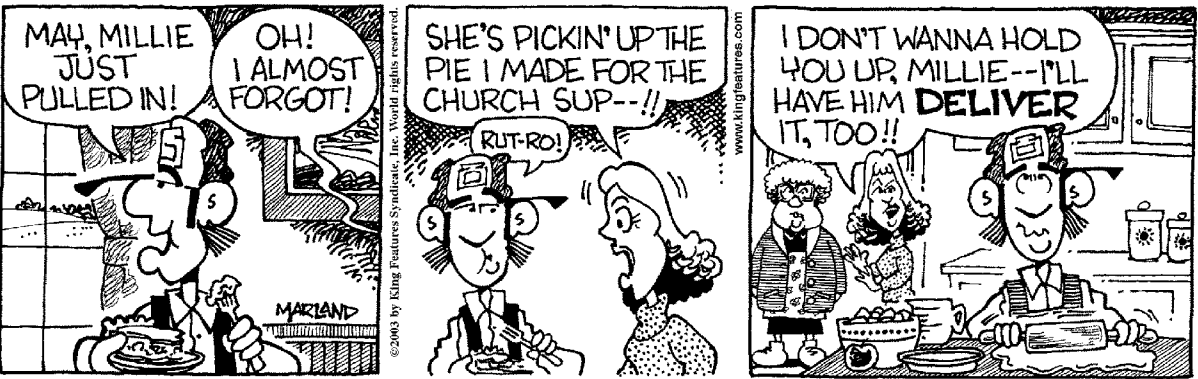
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



Classified Ads

LEGALS

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Invitation to Bid/
Respond:

Sealed bids/proposals/CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services will be accepted at the following times:

READING INTERVENTION CURRICULUM CSP NO
199-0414-0353
MONDAY,
APRIL 14, 2003,
2:00 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4

p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
WTCC-4/3/03

BARGAINS

2002 Honda Accord DX, A/C, 5-speed, 4-cylinder. 23,000 miles. Asking \$14,000. 505-546-4286.

Moving Sale
Furniture, window A/C, dishwasher, clothes, dishes, all sorts of goodies! 14012 Tuckey Ln., Horizon City. Fri/Sat. the 3rd and 4th from 7a.m. to 4p.m.

ESTATE SALES

15089 Homestead in Horizon City, Jerry (J.B.) Brewer. Friday and Saturday, April 4-6, and Sunday if necessary. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entire contents priced to go—

tons of golf equipment, Southwest items, art, something for everyone. Please come — 25¢ and up.

GARAGE SALES

HUGE YARD SALE: 15353 Werling Crt. in Horizon City, April 4-5, 8 a.m. till done. Crafts, supplies, toys, clothing, household items, etc. Come see to believe!

HELP WANTED

Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation NOW HIRING!

SEASONAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE
• Airport Recorder
• Trapper
• Ground Observer
• Mist-Blower Op-

erator Team environment, outdoor work. At least 18 years old. Must have valid driver's license and be insurable under foundation fleet insurance policy. No experience necessary, ag. background helpful. For more information apply in person:
• Tornillo, 451 O.T. Smith Road
• Pecos, 2206 Bickley Ave.
www.txbollweevil.org
Pre-employment drug testing required.
Equal Opportunity Employer/Drug-Free Workplace
WTCC-4/3/03

Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Field Scout Tornillo District
www.txbollweevil.org

The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication

Foundation is recruiting for Field Scouts in the El Paso area. Desirable qualifications: agriculture experience degree preferred, entomology experience preferred. Ability to relate to public, have field experience. Must be an insurable driver according to foundation fleet insurance policy.

Submit your application to:
Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation
451 O.T. Smith Road
Tornillo, TX 79853
Pre-employment Drug Testing Required.
Equal Opportunity Employer/Drug-Free Workplace
WTCC-4/3/03

REAL ESTATE

148 Lago Lindo -

\$74,950. Horizon, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, double garage. Beautiful yards, refrigerator, freezer, and home warranty available. Ask me about 0 Down & 0 Closing! Angela C. Ochoa 252-7943 or Success Realty 594-3339 4/3/03

FOR SALE by OWNER - 7.1 acres in Socorro School District, established yard, outbuildings, older home. 406-557-2400. 4/24/03

Residential lot, cul-de-sac, 15311 Woodhill, Horizon City. Owner finance. 633-6684. 5/8/03

SELF-HELP

Alcoholics Anonymous Group Paso Del Norte meets at 8501 Kingsway in

Weather forecast for the future: Continued hot

By Don Flood

New Mexico recently took a bold step to promote diversity.

According to CNN.com, Rep. Dan Foley, a state lawmaker, has introduced legislation “to enhance relationships among all citizens of the cosmos, known and unknown.”

The idea is to have a special day “to celebrate and honor all past, present and future extraterrestrial visitors” to New Mexico.

Foley, I must report, is from Roswell, N.M., which is where aliens crash-landed in 1947.

It is entirely possible that Foley is himself an alien, though up to now he has only identified himself as a Republican.

But his idea is sound, for two reasons:

First, while we all agree on the importance of greater understanding and international siblinghood amongst all the people of this wide and wonderful world, there is one big obstacle in achieving that goal: people.

People, unfortunately, can be difficult.

I’m not talking, of course, about the readers of this column, who by definition are intelligent, reasonable souls whose veins surge with the cholesterol-reducing soy milk of human kindness.

But those other folks — perhaps even those in the room with you right now — they’re a problem.

Which is why our time would be better spent promoting peace and understanding with space aliens.

Second, we might need the aliens’ help some day in finding us a new planet.

I don’t want to ruin anyone’s breakfast, but according to University of Washington scientists, the end of the world is coming soon to a planet near you.

Our Earth, the story says, has already “begun the long process of devolving into a burned-out cin-

der” — much like Ozzy Osbourne’s brain.

In “The Life and Death of Planet Earth,” the authors say that the sun, like many a baby boomer, will expand enormously as it grows older, eventually engulfing Mercury and Venus. (By which I mean the sun will engulf Mercury and Venus, not one of the baby boomers.)

This will have a catastrophic impact here on Earth, including fewer viewers for The Weather Channel, which won’t be able to count on snow blizzards to goose wintertime ratings.

Here’s how a typical weather report will sound in the year 4,000,000,003 A.D.:

ANCHOR: So, Bob, how’s the weekend shaping up?

IDIOT PRETENDING TO BE REAL METEOROLOGIST: Well, Dan, we can expect mostly sunny and hot, as we have for the last billion years. On Thursday, a cold front is moving in that will bring the temperature down to an unseasonably chilly 7,000 degrees, but come Friday we can expect bright sunshine and temperatures above 10,000 degrees. If all the oceans hadn’t dried up it would be a pretty good beach weekend.

ANCHOR: I understand people should take precautions before going out in the sun, Bob.

METEOROLOGIST: Absolutely, Dan. Folks planning a picnic this weekend should wear sunscreen with a minimum SPF of 35 gazillion, except for those lucky enough to be descendants of George Hamilton.

ANCHOR: Ha ha ha! Who’s George Hamilton?

(Note to younger readers: George Hamilton is a space alien, famous for being famous, as well as for his swell tan.)

(c) 2003 King Features Synd., Inc.

Westway, Monday-Saturday, 8 p.m. Call 886-4948 for information.

zon City, sesiones lunes a sábado a 8 de la tarde. Informacion: 859-0484.

SERVICES

“Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring” JIFFY GLASS REPAIR

Windshield Repair

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. Alcoholics Anonymous, Grupo 8 de Enero, 15360 Horizon Blvd., Hori-

Specialists By appt. at your home or office: R.V. Dick Harshberger 915-852-9082

BERT’S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

Domestic and Foreign 852-3523 1558 Oxbow, Horizon City

HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079

• Electric roofer service for sewers and drains
• Appliance installation
• Many other plumbing services Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.

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T	A	M	E	S	T		U	N	I	T	E	S		D	A	D								
O	Z	A	R	K		A	D	E	L	E		C	L	O	S	E		T	A	E				
W	A	R	R	I	O	R	D	A	Y	S	H	O	U	R	T	R	A	I	L	S				
				N	I	A		J	O	L	T		U	R	I	S		G	N	A				
								Y	A	L	E		W	A	L	E	S		S	A	R	T	R	E
T	A	P		O	I	L		M	I	D	A	S		P	U	P	A							
A	L	L	A	Y				K	A	N	E			D	U	D	S		B	A	Y			
P	I	A	N	O	C	A	N	O	N	C	H	I	L	D	O	P	E	R	A					
E	N	I	D		A	L	O	O	N		R	E	E	S	E		E	V	E	R				
D	E	N	Y		T	E	T	R	A		Y	E	M	E	N		R	Y	A	N				

Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: My mother gets a Social Security widow's benefit. Her bills are piling up and I want to help her out financially. But a neighbor told me that any money I give her would reduce her Social Security check. Is this true?

A: No, it's not. Your neighbor is confusing Social Security with a completely separate program called Supplemental Security Income. You could give your mother

a million dollars and it wouldn't reduce her Social Security benefits by a nickel. But because SSI is a needs-based program for low-income people, we generally have to count all income, including gifts of cash from relatives, when determining eligibility.

Q: I was born in February 1938 so I have to be age 65 and 2 months to get my Social Security. Do I sign up for Medicare at the same time?

A: No. Make an appointment to see us sooner to file for Medicare. That's because the Medicare age is still 65. At the same time, we'll discuss your retirement plans and you may be able to sign up for Social Security at the same time.

Q: Is the Social Security tax rate 6.2 percent or 7.65 percent? I've seen it listed both ways.

A: It's 6.2 percent of your gross income, up to \$87,000 in 2003. But you also pay an extra 1.45 percent of all your income in Medicare taxes. If

you add the Medicare rate to the Social Security tax, the total is 7.65 percent. And your employer kicks in a matching tax payment. Self-employed people pay 12.4 percent of their net profit up to \$87,000 into Social Security and an additional 2.9 percent of all their net profits into the Medicare program.

Q: I was born in 1940, so I understand I can't get my full Social Security benefits until I'm age 65 and 6 months. Does that mean I have to wait until 62 and 6 months if I want to take early retirement?



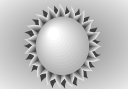





A: No. Although the full retirement age is going up for people born after 1937, the early retirement age remains at 62 for everyone. But remember: if you retire at age 62, your monthly benefit will be reduced permanently.

For more information visit your local 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.

WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
							
Windy and warm with a good deal of sunshine.	Mainly clear; breezy and mild.	Sunny, breezy and cooler.	Brilliant sunshine.	Mostly sunny and windy.	Sunshine and a few clouds.	Partly sunny.	Partly sunny.
▲ 80°	▼ 50°	▲ 76° ▼ 46°	▲ 78° ▼ 46°	▲ 72° ▼ 44°	▲ 76° ▼ 44°	▲ 78° ▼ 46°	▲ 80° ▼ 46°

UV INDEX

Statistics for noon.

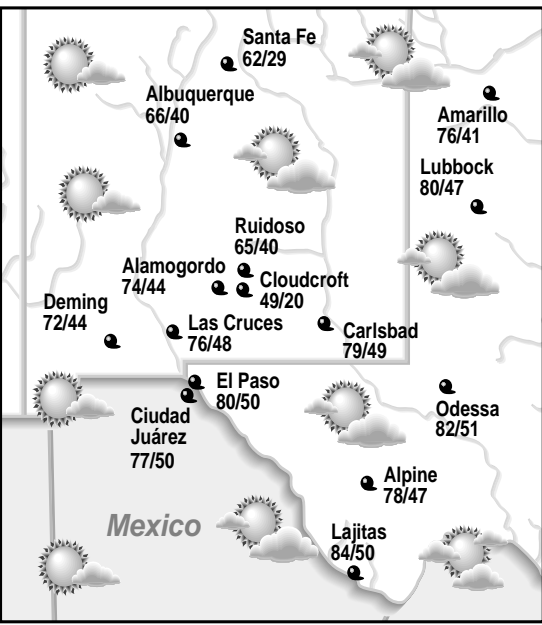
The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Thursday	9	Very High
Friday	9	Very High
Saturday	10	Very High
Sunday	9	Very High
Monday	9	Very High
Tuesday	9	Very High
Wednesday	9	Very High

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	77	51
Canutillo	78	52
Clint	77	52
E. Montana	80	50
Fabens	77	52
Horizon	78	52
San Elizario	74	49
Socorro	79	49
Tornillo	77	52
Vinton	78	52

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



TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur. Hi/Low	Fri. Hi/Low	Sat. Hi/Low	Sun. Hi/Low	Mon. Hi/Low
Albuquerque	66/40/s	68/40/s	67/39/s	63/37/s	65/30/s
Atlanta	80/54/s	78/56/pc	74/54/c	72/52/c	72/56/pc
Atlantic City	66/50/pc	70/40/pc	56/36/pc	51/34/s	57/42/c
Austin/San Antonio	82/61/pc	82/61/pc	82/63/c	80/56/pc	79/60/pc
Baltimore	74/50/pc	74/46/pc	58/36/pc	50/36/s	63/45/c
Boston	48/43/sh	50/38/c	46/34/pc	42/32/s	48/38/c
Chicago	68/42/t	52/34/sh	46/32/pc	50/40/c	59/39/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	84/60/pc	82/60/pc	81/62/c	76/55/c	74/54/s
Denver	60/30/pc	54/28/pc	64/35/pc	57/31/pc	54/19/pc
Flagstaff	48/22/s	50/24/pc	47/27/c	44/21/pc	49/20/s
Houston	82/64/pc	82/64/pc	82/66/c	79/62/c	78/58/c
Kansas City	74/44/pc	60/42/pc	60/46/pc	70/46/c	63/31/s
Las Vegas	66/44/s	66/46/pc	64/46/pc	66/46/pc	69/48/s
Miami	83/70/pc	84/70/pc	87/72/sh	86/74/pc	86/71/pc
Minneapolis	49/34/sh	42/24/pc	44/32/pc	43/31/c	50/18/c
New Orleans	80/64/s	80/64/pc	80/64/c	80/65/pc	78/57/c
New York City	57/48/c	65/42/pc	54/40/pc	46/40/s	53/47/c
Philadelphia	69/50/pc	72/44/pc	57/38/pc	50/36/s	53/45/c
Phoenix	74/50/s	76/52/s	72/53/pc	72/52/s	76/47/s
Portland	50/40/sh	54/40/sh	56/40/pc	58/41/pc	57/33/c
San Francisco	56/48/pc	54/46/sh	58/44/c	60/44/pc	61/35/c
Seattle	50/38/sh	52/38/sh	52/40/pc	55/40/c	56/35/c
Tucson	74/42/s	76/44/s	73/47/pc	71/44/pc	73/44/s
Washington, DC	76/54/pc	76/48/pc	58/40/pc	52/40/s	61/49/c

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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