



NEWSBRIEFS

Relay For Life...

The American Cancer Society (ACS), in conjunction with Canutillo Independent School District, will hold the Third Annual Relay For Life Walk, Run, or Stroll, beginning at 7 p.m., Friday, April 30, and continue through 7 a.m., Saturday, May 1, at Canutillo High School Eagles Stadium, 7311 Bosque Road. The Relay For Life event is designed to bring together community residents for a night of exercise and entertainment, celebrate cancer survivors, memorialize those who lost their battle with cancer, and support families and friends who are currently battling with cancer.

Glass prohibited

"Glass containers will no longer be allowed on Chamizal National Memorial grounds," Superintendent Isabel Montes announced this week. "The Chamizal National Memorial has seen a steady increase in glass containers, which has resulted in broken glass creating a safety hazard to our visitors. Glass is heavy and more difficult to dispose of and glass is not recycled in El Paso." She concluded by saying that, "The National Park Service has an obligation to conserve and provide for enjoyment of Park resources and values. This safety precaution will move us to be more consistent in our role to serve as a leader in environmental stewardship." Recycling containers for cans are available throughout the grounds during major events.

First annual tourney

Canutillo Alumni Foundation for Education (CAFÉ) will hold its First Annual Golf Tournament, Friday, April 30, at the Santa Teresa Country Club. Registration will begin at 11 a.m. with starting time at 1 p.m. CAFÉ invites interested golfers to participate in the four-person team scramble and the individual events including longest drive, longest and straightest drive, and closest to the pin. Prizes will be awarded to winners. Tournament proceeds go to fund scholarships for Canutillo High School graduating seniors. For more information, call 479-6345.

In other news

■ The Dia de los Niños/Dia de los Libros celebration will promote literacy and education for children regardless of linguistic and cultural background. Children can listen to stories, finger plays and a skit, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the El Paso County Library, 1331 N. Fabens St. in Fabens. Call 764-3635 for more information.

■ Canutillo Independent School District will hold early registration for four and five year olds in Pre-K and Kindergarten for the 2004-2005 school year from 2:30

See BRIEFS, Page 5

In 1913 Uncle Sam collected only 13 million dollars in income taxes. That's why they were called the "good old days."
— Quips & Quotes

Volunteers noted during Clint awards for Keep Texas Beautiful

CLINT — The Town of Clint and its local volunteer affiliate "Keep Clint Beautiful" is wrapping up the 2004 Great American



BREATHES — A group of volunteers takes a short break from gathering trash in Clint.

Cleanup. Over 1,000 volunteer hours went into several cleanup events which started March 1, as part of the national Keep America Beautiful effort which runs through May 31.

Over 200 recognitions will be presented on May 4 at 7 p.m. by Mayor Charles Gonzalez at the Town Council meeting.

Each cleanup event saw an average of 28 volunteers of all ages. Over 50 volunteers participated in the cemetery cleanup on Sunday, April 18 and will complete the cleanup on May 16.

Keep Clint Beautiful, which began in January of 2003, was last year Governors Community Achievement Award winner for small cities. KCB is one of 330 statewide affiliates of Keep Texas Beautiful, which partners with the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Commission for Environmental Quality, Texas Forest Service and other state agencies. The main goals of KTB is to prevent litter, beautify and improve communities, reduce waste and promote civic pride by focusing on prevention, preservation and participation.

Each day, the Clint Maintenance Department can be found picking up trash and debris from road sides and bundles of recyclable materials from the homes of the residents. In Clint, on April 3, volunteers collected 40 bags of trash, 26 tires and two mattresses for pickup by TxDoT along eight miles of Texas 20 and FM

See CLINT, Page 4

Mayor concerned about state of Socorro

Courier Staff Reports

SOCORRO — Socorro Mayor Irma Sanchez could probably sum up her tenure as head elected official of this municipality in a single word: frustration.

With polls opening April 28 for early voting to seek approval to amend Socorro's City Charter to allow redrawing of voting district boundaries, no definitive map exists to show the public exactly where the new boundaries would be.

The matter was further complicated Tuesday when the agenda was not posted for the public for a special meeting later this week to finalize those boundaries and begin to acquaint the public with the proposal. A notice was posted late Tuesday that the meeting, which had been published, was canceled and would be rescheduled and posted for a later date.

Socorro's council will already remain in office far longer than their elected terms, after Charter attorney's failed to meet time lines to redraw the voting districts before the May 2004 elections. The boundaries had to be changed to comply with election law, since they had become out of balance due to population growth and shifts.

As a result, the earliest a city election can be held will be sometime in mid-September, a fact that weighs heavily on Sanchez' mind. "I was elected by the people to serve until the election in May," she said. "It seems strange to consider myself an elected official after that date without the approval of the voters."

When the City Charter was approved, it was based on four specific voting districts. However, Socorro's rapid growth, annexation and population shifts have changed its makeup to

See SOCORRO, Page 2

Clint ISD shifts attendance boundary for 350 students in Temperance Rd. area

*By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier*

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — A change in attendance boundaries for the Horizon and Clint areas of the Clint Independent School District was approved by the Board of Trustees at a meeting April 22

Students of the district who live south of Temperance Road including the College Park, Dairy Land, Colonia Del Paso and Ascencion Park Estates neighborhoods will attend the

Clint attendance area beginning the 2004-2005 school year.

Students within those boundaries who will be in prekindergarten through fifth grade will attend W.D. Surratt Elementary. Students in sixth and seventh grade will attend Clint Junior High. Students in grades 8-11 will have the option of attending either the Horizon or Clint High Schools. Students in grade 12 will attend Clint High School. Any new students in this area, regardless of grade level, will be assigned

See CLINT ISD, Page 3

Anthony ISD wants Butler to stay on as superintendent, names him finalist

*By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer*

ANTHONY — It appears that Vern Butler is well on his way to being the new superintendent of the Anthony Independent School District.

At its April 21 meeting, the district's board of trustees named Butler the finalist, its only



Vern Butler

candidate for the position he presently holds on an interim basis. He took over the post on March 1 following the resignation of Robert Ortega.

Although he is the only candidate, Butler's selection won't be official until May 14, ex-

plains Larry Baskind, the district's attorney. He says the law requires a 21-day waiting period following the announcement before his selection becomes official and final. This allows for possible public input on the board's choice as well as for taking care of administrative matters such as developing his contract.

"A light went on for me," Butler said afterwards in regards to his accepting the position. "It was a right fit for me with the board and administration."

It seems that it was a "right fit" for the board as well.

At one of the earlier meetings in March between the board and Butler, the superintendent asked the trustees how long they would like him to stay. "How about six years?" one trustee is reported to have said.

It seems that board president Rick Villarreal's earlier expressed wish will be coming true. "We would like to have him for the long term. He will hit the ground running," he said Monday. "He loves a challenge, and he sees a challenge. He has super high energy."

"I have nothing but good things to say about him," Villarreal adds. The board president said he wasn't interested in a protracted search outside the district. He feels there are important issues such as the upcoming budget review process on which the board needs to focus its efforts. Also, it was equally important to have a new superintendent in place to be a part of that process.

Other superintendents have good things to say about Butler, as well.

"It shows that you don't have to go far to find a good man," says Charles Hart, superintendent of the neighboring Canutillo school district. "He is a real gentleman; he is a real educator."

"They made a good choice. He brings a lot of knowledge and skills to the job," adds Dr. Mike Quatrini, superintendent of the San Elizario school district. "They got a good man; he will do a good job for them."

Butler, previously interim superintendent of the Ysleta school district, said Anthony is

See BUTLER, Page 4



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

No way to treat a lady

My 14-year-old daughter went on a date last week — with her father.

It was her birthday, see. In lieu of a present he gave her a certificate that entitled her to one full day of his company. They went out to eat, bought a new pair of shoes, went bowling.

She's at that wonderful age of adjustment — to arms and legs that are suddenly too long, to emotional highs that are a little too high and lows a little further on the downside than they were when she was a child.

She's like a fragile, unfinished painting, waiting for details to be filled in by life. She'll be a real lady if she's treated like one.

Meanwhile, in Baltimore, Maryland, a 12-year-old girl lay comatose in a hospital for several weeks, the victim of a terrible beating by at least six other young girls and women. She was attending the birthday party of a "friend" when kissed on the cheek, as a result of a dare, by a young man who was reported to be the boyfriend of the birthday girl.

According to news reports, the birthday girl's mother encouraged the attack by telling her daughter to

"handle your business."

My question is, where was her daddy?

Not many years ago we saw two honor students, who were lovers, go to prison after literally executing a young girl the boy had kissed while traveling to a school event on a bus. The female half of the couple insisted they had to do it to keep their relationship "pure."

I don't think she had spent much time in the loving company of her father.

Men who father children are daddies whether they like it or not. And they are going to set an example whether they want to or not. Their only choice is whether that example is going to be a good one that will produce loving, responsible offspring — or conversely, a child who will beat another almost to death over a little boy's kiss.

Lots of daddies will bow out of the family picture early on and then blame the mom when things turn out bad with his kids. That's simply a cop-out. There is no way a woman can ruin the relationship between a father and daughter if the dad has

bothered to forge one.

I remember that, while attending dances as a young girl, I knew that at some point in the evening my father would appear at my side and ask me to dance. He did this with each of his three daughters. If we were lucky, it happened more than once during the dance. I was the proudest girl in the room dancing with him. I felt pretty and special. That kind of attention is a gift that only a father can give. And it wouldn't matter what anyone — family, friend or foe — said to me about him, it could never change the fact that he will forever be the tallest man I've ever met. And that opinion has nothing to do with his height.

It simply doesn't matter what a guy looks like, how much money he makes, or whether he has much style. His little girl doesn't care. I once asked a friend, who spent a lot of time talking about how wonderful her dad was, to describe him to me. The unbiased facts revealed a reticent, portly, balding man with glasses, who worked in a factory. But while she said the words, that was not the image being evoked in her memory. She remembered the man equivalent to

the way he treated her — which must have been pretty good.

It also doesn't matter if you are divorced — a man I know turned his whole life around to accommodate his tiny daughter after his divorce and has been counting his blessings for doing so ever since.

In short, guys, it's up to you.

Police in Baltimore say they are worried. They say events like the birthday party beating, where females are exhibiting angry and violent behavior formerly associated only with males, are becoming more common nationwide.

They say the Baltimore beating was astonishing, not only because of the sheer savagery of the attack which involved scratching, kicking and stomping, but because it was other females who perpetrated the attack.

Maybe the police should call the daddies and ask *them* why their little girls are behaving this way. If their daughters have been neglected, ignored, negatively criticized, abused or abandoned, you probably have your answer.

Those daddies need to be told that's no way to treat a lady.

TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, April 29, 1936, McCamey holds the first "Rattlesnake Derby."



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

SBA loans assist El Paso businesses

El Paso's nearly 1,000 small businesses can breathe a sigh of relief because the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program is back.

The SBA's 7(a) loan program is a \$9.4 billion program which finances 40-percent of all SBA loans. It is one of the SBA's most popular programs and is a lifeline for many minority and women-owned businesses.

Earlier this year, the SBA could not keep up with the demand for 7(a) loans under its funding level and was forced to temporarily suspend the program. While the SBA was able to reinstate the program, it had to do so by capping loans at half their intended size.

The 7(a) program is extremely important to El Paso's small businesses — and therefore our economy as a whole. As many small businesses do not qualify for traditional bank loans, the 7(a) program provides an avenue for small business owners to access the basic operating and expansion capital they need to survive and grow. By utilizing this loan program, small businesses have more access to bank financing because the SBA guarantees 50-85 percent of the loan.

Given the 7(a) program's significance in El Paso and across the country, my colleagues and I fought to fully fund the program. We wrote to Speaker Dennis Hastert, urging a swift fix for the 7(a) program and pledging our support for the program. The biggest victory for the 7(a) program, though, was when Congress passed and President Bush signed into law legislation that nearly tripled the loan guarantee a lender could provide to small business owners through the 7(a) program. The current \$562,000 loan guarantee limit will increase to \$1.5 million. The SBA estimates the additional \$3 billion in loan authority created by the legislation will allow the SBA to guarantee an additional 30,000 loans through the end of the fiscal year, creating up to 500,000 jobs nationwide.

This new law is a step in the right direction for El Paso's small businesses and economy; however, Congress' work improving the SBA and ensuring small business a place in the economy is just starting. Congress is required to reauthorize the SBA every three years. While reauthorization legislation passed unanimously out of the House Small Business Committee last July, it still has not come to the floor of the House of Representatives. The adoption of this reauthorization legislation would serve as an important step to strengthen and expand all of the SBA's lending programs, improve entrepreneurial programs, and create new pathways for small businesses to gain access to the federal procurement marketplace.

El Paso's small businesses are the main catalyst of economic development in our community, and in these tight financial times, we are relying on them. The sense of community and jobs small businesses provide are second to none. Small businesses need and deserve assistance from the federal government if we are to improve El Paso's financial prospects.

Socorro

From Page 1

the degree that their boundaries had to be changed to comply with voting laws.

According to Sanchez, the city administration and council were aware of this over a year ago when the El Paso County Elections Dept. revised their voting precinct boundaries in Socorro because of population changes. Then-City Clerk Tere Rodriguez, under direction of mayor and council, sent documents to Charter Attorney Greg Hudson requesting the process begin for amending the Charter and revising the boundaries. However, that process never took place.

With three changes in the city attorney, and two in the position of city clerk, apparently no one followed up to make sure plans were proceeding,

until the 2004 election neared. By then it was too late.

According to Sanchez, Hudson agreed in public meeting that his firm had not followed through — little comfort for a troubled council already plagued with personnel difficulties and legal challenges.

With only about three months left in which the sitting council can conduct city business — they become "lame" 45 days prior to the election — Sanchez said she is faced with a do or die situation.

"We have been trying to run a city with all of the key positions filled with only interim appointments. Our payroll and human resources situation are in disarray. And now we are issuing certificates of obligation (revenue bonds) based on revenue sources which do not exist," Sanchez said. "I have retained my own attorney to look into some of these things. If he finds that there has been wrong-

doing in these matters, I am prepared to file charges."

The positions of Socorro city manager, city clerk and chief of police have been filled with interim appointments for over a year — a fact that Sanchez has been very vocal in her opposition to.

Additionally, Socorro council met in special session on April 20 to approve issuance of \$2 million in revenue bonds slated for improvements in streets. However, part of the revenue pledged to repay the bonds are from a city museum which essentially does not exist. The city budget does not carry a line item for either expenditures or income associated with a museum.

Sanchez refused to sign the certificates during a previous meeting saying the museum pledge was dishonest. However, she was over-ruled by council and mayor pro tem Gary Gandara signed the documents.

31 YEARS OF PUBLICATION

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COURIER

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Canutillo ISD board majority backs superintendent on curriculum decisions

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

CANUTILLO — Two key, yet diverse, elements of the operation of a school district came under close scrutiny at the April 13 meeting of the board of trustees of the Canutillo ISD.

They were the framework for instruction in the high school: who makes the final decision as to its shape; and also the future of spring break — to have or not to have — that was the question.

Triggering the lengthy discussion on the instructional framework was a report by board member Sergio Coronado on a long meeting of the curriculum/instruction committee that he heads. The committee discussed the options for school schedules.

Board member Rafael Reyes was concerned about Superintendent Charles Hart making the decision as to the new form of instruction for the high school. “We need to study it further; we need more time; we need more information; this is a big decision,” Reyes said.

Other board members had a different view.

“I think it is his (Hart’s) position, to adopt this change,” said Gonzalo Garcia, referring to who should be making the curriculum decision. “I wholeheartedly support Mr. Hart.”

“Let the administration do its job; they are the experts,” added Coronado in deferring to its recommendations.

Joe Villarreal said it is the position of the board to come up with the “what,” as in what needs to be done. The “how,” he said, refers to the responsibility of the administration — how a task or goal is to be accomplished.

Villarreal added that the roles of board and administration are specific and well delineated. Another meeting, he feared, would put the admin-

istration in limbo. “We are putting up obstacles,” he said.

Alfredo Vasquez, the district’s public information officer, later explained that a new hybrid curriculum format is evolving from the old block schedule. It may add 20 minutes to the school day. A key factor is that the new format will increase the amount of “direct instruction time,” made necessary by higher expectations of state and federal mandates for student performance.

“Expectations of students will increase every year,” the superintendent said. Increasing student performance “is my job; it is my job description.”

Underscoring the superintendent, Vasquez said more direct instruction time would improve student performance.”(And) there is lots of room for improvement.

“The new schedule will address the needs of all the students,” Vasquez emphasized. This would cover students in the tutoring program to those in the advance placement program.

Reyes raised another concern, one about energy conservation, during discussion of the district calendar. He observed that the district could save money in cooling costs by eliminating spring break. In taking this action, he noted, the district could start one week later in the school year. This would eliminate one week of cooling costs. Or, he added, the district could start at the same time and end the school year one week earlier, again saving money on cooling expenses.

“This merits serious, serious consideration,” Villarreal said. “I support Reyes.”

The board subsequently approved the district calendar as presented by the District Advisory Council, without incorporating the suggested change.

Hart noted that Sapien-Sanchez was elected as the chairperson of the Far West Texas School Board Assn.

San Elizario follows new trend, sets goal of superior food service

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

SAN ELIZARIO — A second area school district is “beefing up” its food service operations.

San Elizario Independent School District has recently hired Raul Jacques as its new food services coordinator, replacing Alicia Grijalva. This follows recent announcement of the hiring of Chef Paul Bellegarde by the Canutillo ISD.

Jacques was introduced to SEISD’s board of trustees at its April 14 meeting by Robert Longoria, support services director.

Jacques thanked the board and said he looked forward to the challenges and opportunities. He promised the district a “superior food services operation.” He comes to San Elizario from the Texas Department of Human Services where he was area program manager for nu-

trition.

“He comes with a lot of experience,” Longoria said. “He is a great addition to our team.”

Superintendent Dr. Mike Quatrini had good news for board members. Based on recent TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) test results for third-graders, he reported SEISD was one of the top districts in Region 19.

“Scores were second highest in the region,” he pointed out in his progress report. “Last year’s scores were tied for first in the region. Average scores of students tested at Alarcon, Sambrano and Borrego Elementary schools was 92 in the English testing and 88 in Spanish.

“Excellent results,” he concluded.

In his first quarter report, Quatrini said the district would be submitting application for \$1.8 million in state IFA (Instructional Facilities Allotment) funding for construction

of a new high school library. Deadline is June 15.

He also said the administration was working to “transition the students out of the bilingual program more quickly.” Presently students are in the program for an average of five to six years. Quatrini wants to cut it to three to four years.

Longoria also said there is a “need” for an additional school bus to transport students along Campo Bello. The district is looking into the cost of acquiring a new school bus.

In other action, the board approved:

- A request for Constable Alex Gamboa to borrow office space in the administration annex for approximately six months until other accommodations are available.
- A district calendar for 2004-05.
- A contract for County Elections Department to conduct elections on May 15.

Mata Ortiz pottery featured in Chamizal exhibition

EL PASO COUNTY — What began as a quiet, even obscure effort to help feed one family through the sale of authentic looking ancient pottery in the high northern Chihuahuaplains of Mexico in the early 1970s, has developed into village enterprise supporting over 300 families. But today, there is a significant difference. The crudeness found in the replication of those early Casas Grandes pots has been replaced by the original thin walled ceramics that are now internationally recognized as fine art. The originator of today’s art form

is Juan Quezada, a quiet man who lives with his family in the village of Mata Ortiz, not far from the International Heritage Site of Casas Grandes.

Selected pieces by Juan Quezada, as well as a carefully selected representation of work from the best potters of Mata Ortiz will be on display, with most for sale, during the Chamizal National Memorial’s upcoming exhibition of The Magic of Mata Ortiz Pottery. Lydia Quezada, Juan’s sister, recognized as the premier potter today by many, will be featured.

Co-curated by Mayte Lujan of Las Guacamayas Gallery in the old Casas Grandes, the exhibition will be open to the public without charge beginning Thursday, April 29 with an opening reception from 5:30 — 7:30 p.m. in the Los Paisanos Gallery at Chamizal National Memorial, El Paso’s National Park, 800 South San Marcial.

The public is invited to the opening reception where Lydia Quezada and her family will demonstrate the unique Mata Ortiz potting and painting techniques.

Gear-Up to host Teen Summit May 6

By Rosa Garcia
Special to the Courier

FABENS — A Teen Summit, sponsored by the Gear-Up Program, will be held on May 6, at the Mission Valley Ballroom on North Loop and Horizon Blvd. Students from Clint, Fabens, Anthony, and Canutillo will have the opportunity to obtain information from various colleges, listen to motivational speakers and participate in other activities.

This summer Gear-Up will sponsor two students from each high school for an all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C.

Primarily juniors, who began in the seventh grade, are involved with the Gear-Up Program. Any junior student needing tutoring is welcome to

go to the Gear-Up tutors.

Fabens has 12 Gear-Up tutors working to strengthen students’ school performance. They also help prepare them for education beyond high school. The tutors provide in-class and after school tutoring in all subjects.

Additionally, four EPCC counselors provide monthly workshops for the students, and a vocational guidance assistant coordinates all the Gear-Up activities at the schools. Monthly workshops with topics like College Programs, Career Awareness or Study Skills help students toward educational goals.

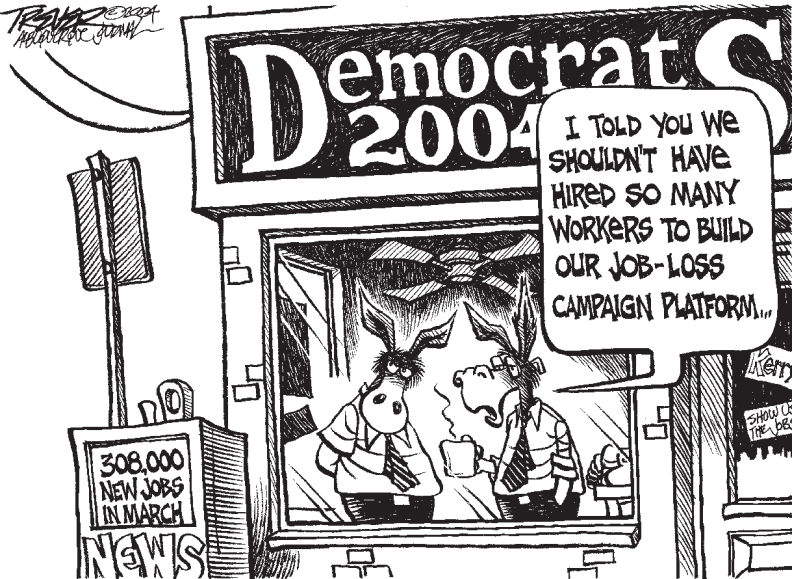
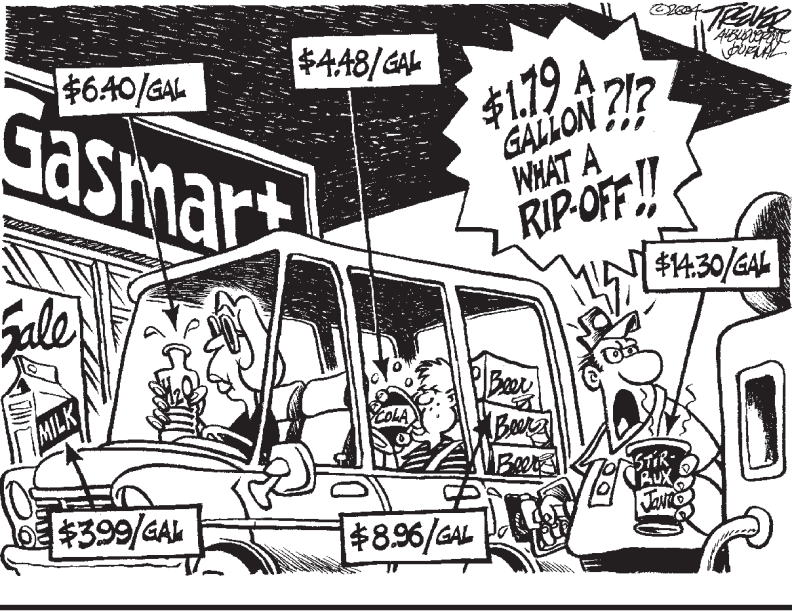
“The Gear-Up tutors are a real asset to the high school,” said Robert Sepulveda, FHS principal. “We always need manpower if we are to move our kids forward. With the help

of the Gear-Up program, this is definitely possible.”

The tutors, many who are FHS graduates, include Angie Aldana, Josue Aldana, Salvador Baltier, Jennifer Bandu, Francisco Candelaria, Cynthia Cardona, Gabriela Fierro, Sonia Galvan, Annette Garcia, Saul Garcia, Erica Hernandez, and Elizabeth Ramirez.

“The success of the program,” said Josie Manriquez, a vocational guidance assistant, “is due to the hard work of the tutors and the dedication they have to their students. They not only offer educational assistance but listen to personal problems and help guide students into making sound decisions.”

The EPCC Gear-Up Program is a five-year project designed to work with students in the areas of Clint, Fabens, Anthony, and Canutillo.



Clint ISD

From Page 1

to Clint area schools.

The decision to move the boundary was based on the growth rates of the Clint and Horizon areas. The area around Horizon is rapidly growing and at least 500 new students are expected in the next school year. Currently, the Horizon feeder pattern serves approximately 8,500 students and is projected to increase to 9,000 in the coming school year.

Enrollment in the Clint area is de-

clining. Last school year the Clint feeder pattern served 1,760 students. Currently, this area serves approximately 1,650 students and is projected to serve 1,490 students in the next school year without the boundary change.

Approximately 350 students live in the area south of Temperance Road which is equal distance from Clint or Horizon. The new boundary will relieve the crowding in the Horizon area and give students access to available classrooms in the Clint area.

Prior to making the decision to move the attendance boundary, the Clint ISD Board of Trustees looked at enrollment projections, growth

rates for both feeder patterns, and possible solutions as presented by Dr. Donna Smith, Superintendent.

The Board also held public meetings in both the Clint and Horizon areas in order to gain input from the community. Approximately 80 individuals attended the meetings to give input and ask questions regarding the change.

“The move will allow us to best serve all the students in this area. This is a wise decision for now and the future. All our campuses have excellent teachers and our instructional programs are aligned. This will assure a smooth transition for the children,” said Dr. Smith.

Clint

From Page 1

1110 that run through the town. TxDoT provides the volunteers with safety vests and trash bags, litter bags and bumper stickers promoting their

“Adopt-A-Highway” and “Don’t Mess With Texas” litter campaigns. Education plays an important role in preventing litter and illegal dumpsites. Through the Texas Forest Service, Foresters assist homeowners with proper tree maintenance and how to care for injured trees. In Clint, the forest service has

assisted with the beautification projects for the Senior Center and the Police Department. KTB encourages activities which preserve not only the environment but local history as well. The volunteers in Clint, along with Mayor Charles Gonzalez, have worked tirelessly to raise money to purchase the

land for a park designed for the town by Texas Parks and Wildlife, the 60 acre park includes family areas as well as athletic areas, gardens and 80 new trees. In a short nine months they have raised \$380,000, half of the money needed A second group of volunteers is working with the Texas Historic Commission and UTEP to assist the town with landmarks for several historic sites. One of those sites is a cemetery in Clint which was abandoned in the 1930’s. During a recent cleanup, two additional headstones were discovered when the weeds and brush were cleared away. The vision of KTB is “Every Texan will take individual responsibility for

making Texas the cleanest most beautiful state in the nation”. In Clint those volunteers have come from many different sources — five volunteer school organizations which begin at the elementary level and continue through Clint High School, two Boy Scout troops, a number of Little League teams and four churches. KCB has six business sponsors who support the volunteers through donating food, beverages and material for each event. KCB is open to all residents in the Clint area and includes residents from Horizon City, City of Socorro, and the San Elizario and Fabens communities.

Village of Vinton

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held by the Village of Vinton, Texas to provide information and receive comments from Vinton area residents and the general public on the Environmental Information Document (EID) for the following project:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project consists of the construction of a water distribution system and a wastewater (sewer) collection system for the Village of Vinton, TX. The constructed water and wastewater line work will be placed primarily in existing street rights-of-way. The water system is expected to be connected to the booster station at the intersection of Vinton Road and Doniphan Road owned and operated by the El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board. A ground reservoir supplied by the booster station will serve the residents potable water. The sewer collection system will flow to a lift station that will pump sewage to the future North Wastewater Treatment Plant.

PROJECT COST

Preliminary estimates of the proposed water project as presented in the EID total approximately \$10.8 million. The project is expected to receive funding assistance from the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC), North American Development Bank (NADB), Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS). The estimated monthly bill to a typical customer is undetermined at this time and will vary depending on the availability of project grant and loan funding from the funding assistance entities.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

Copies of the Environmental Information Document will be available for inspection weekdays between the hours of 8:00AM and 4:30 PM at the business office of the Village of Vinton, 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821.

DATE AND LOCATION

The Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 1, 2004 at 7:00 PM at the Village of Vinton Town Hall, 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton Texas, 79821.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives to it.

Further project development is needed to obtain funds for construction of the proposed water facilities.

Aviso Publico

Se efectuara una Audiencia Publica por el Pueblo de Vinton, Tejas para proveer informacion y recibir comentarios de los residentes de Vinton y el publico en general referente al Environmental Information Document (Documento de Informacion Ambiental) para el siguiente proyecto.

DESCRIPCION DEL PROYECTO

El proyecto propuesto establece la construccion de un sistema de distribucion de agua y de un sistema de drenaje para la comunidad de Vinton. Las lineas construidas se localizan en la entrada existente derecho de paso callejones. Las lineas se conectaran con la planta propuesta North Wastewater Treatment Plant que sera construido por el El Paso Water Utilities Public Service Board.

COSTO DEL PROYECTO

El costo preliminarior de construccion como presentado en el Documento de Informacion Ambiental es estimado a \$10.8 millones. El proyecto recibira asistencia de parte de varias fuentes incluyendo el programa de areas de bajos recursos de la Directiva del Desarrollo de Agua de Tejas. El costo mensual por cliente aun no se determinan. Estamos en el proceso de recaudar fondos federales que son disponibles para este tipo de proyectos.

DOCUMENTO DISPONIBLE

Copias del Documento de Informacion Ambiental estaran disponibles para inspeccion durante la semana de las 8:00 A.M. a las 4:30 P.M. en la oficina del Pueblo de Vinton, 436 Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821.

DIA Y FECHA DE LA AUDIENCIA

La Audiencia se llevara acabo el martes, 1 de Junio, 2004, a las 7:00 P.M. en la sala del Pueblo de Vinton, 436 Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821.

Los propositos de esta audiencia son para discutir los impactos ambientales posibles de este proyecto y las altemativas que existen.

Butler

From Page 1

a very positive school district to work with. “It is very open and wanting to move forward. I am very interested in building relationships with the staff and working together with them,” he said.

Butler is interested in moving forward on more than just an educational front. Not wanting to spend so much time in transit, he said he and his wife are looking at moving to West El Paso from their present home in Horizon City.

In another major action of the evening, the board approved Dallas-based Lawrence Financial Consulting as its financial advisor in preparation for an upcoming bond election.

Baskind and the board discussed strategies for possibly scheduling a

special July bond election to refinance \$1.23 million in 1999 lease revenue bonds that were used to build the fine arts facility. It is expected that the refinancing and repositioning of the bond funds into a different budget category will generate approximately \$200,000 in savings “for other budget purposes.”

The majority of that money, \$139,300, is expected from additional Tier II state funding, points out Karen Elmore, the district’s director of finance.

Elmore said the administrative cost savings would allow the district to save four to eight district positions in the new budget.

The school board voted to cancel the upcoming school board election in Anthony because only two candidates, Susie Singh and Christine Singh, had filed for the two positions open. They were declared elected to the board.

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Public Notice

Village of Vinton, Texas

FAIR HOUSING, IT’S THE LAW

The Village of Vinton hereby declares its support of fair housing practices. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the locality to bring about, through fair, orderly, and lawful procedures, the opportunity of each person to obtain housing without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental handicap, martial status, parenthood, or age.

It is further declared that such policy is established upon a recognition of the inalienable rights of each individual to obtain housing and, further, that denial of such rights is detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the locality and constitutes an unjust denial or deprivation of such inalienable rights which is within the power and the proper responsibility of government to prevent.

The Village of Vinton has a Fair Housing Policy that may be examined and copied by interested groups or individuals at the Vinton Village Hall between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. The Village of Vinton is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action employer.

Antonio Castro, Mayor

WTCC: 04/29/04

Briefs

From Page 1

p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Canutillo Elementary School and Childress Elementary School on May 18 and 20; Damian Elementary School and Davenport Elementary School on May 17 and 19. Children must be four years old by Sept. 1, 2004 and only students new to Canutillo ISD need to register. Parent or guardian must bring the child's birth certificate, shot record, child's social security card, proof of residence, income verification, and parent or guardian identification to their respective campus. Classes for the 2004-2005 school year are scheduled to start Monday, August 16. For more information, call 877-7440.

■ Chamizal National Memorial. El Paso's National Park, will accept applications until July 31 for use of the facilities for the calendar year 2005. Submissions after

than date will not be accepted. All applicants are required to take a free two-hour workshop, which is being provided at no charge. This annual process, which began in April, opens the use of the theatre at Chamizal National Memorial to individuals, organizations and performers. Application forms may be obtained at the Memorial's Visitor Center, 800 South San Marcial. Workshops will be held at the Memorial on May 15 and June 26 at 2 p.m. and on May 26 and June 26 at 7 p.m. For additional information, call 915 532-7273.

■ In its fourth El Paso season, the Santa Fe Opera will offer a public concert of opera and musical theater selections of their 2004 Apprentice Artist Tour on Saturday, May 1 at 3 p.m. in the theatre at Chamizal National Memorial, El Paso's National Park, 800 South San Marcial, El Paso. The 90-minute performance is free and open to the public. First come, first served.

Public Notice

LOWER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

ELECTION CANCELLATION NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 2.053(a) of the Texas Election Code, the Lower Valley Water District Board of Directors has approved an Order of Cancellation declaring the following unopposed candidates elected to the positions of Directors on the LVWD Board of Directors:

Board of Director Place 4: David Carrasco
Board of Director Place 5: Alice L. Fresquez

Furthermore, notice is given that based on the absence of any opposed candidates or any District proposition, the Board has ordered that the previously called District election to be held on May 15, 2004 is cancelled.

WTCC: 04/29/04

City of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

FAIR HOUSING
A Fundamental Entitlement
for all Americans

As we observe the 36th anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Horizon City joins others in El Paso County urging all citizens to become aware of and support the Fair Housing Law. Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination in housing and calls for a national policy for fair housing. This national policy can only be successful with the cooperation of all Americans. This policy prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market. The City Council of Horizon City proclaims April as Fair Housing Month.

For more information on Fair Housing or to report possible Fair Housing discrimination, call the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development at 1-800-669-9777.

Sandra Sierra
City Clerk

WTCC: 04/29/04

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ELECTION

Horizon Regional Municipal Water District

TO THE QUALIFIED VOTES OF HORIZON REGIONAL MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

Notice is hereby given that Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District (the "District") will hold a Director Election within and for the District on May 15, 2004 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, for the purpose of duly qualified resident electors voting for two (2) directors for Directors Positions 1 and 2. The polling places shall be Horizon Heights School, 13601 Ryderwood for Precinct Nos. 147 and 166, Desert Hills Elementary School, 300 Eastlake for Precincts Nos. 157, 167 and 168, and Sparks Community Center, 12899 Sparks Drive for Precinct 148, all locations within the District.

The County of El Paso Elections Department shall appoint the Presiding Judge and any required Alternate Presiding Judge or Clerks.

Early Voting by personal appearance shall be conducted at the Oz Glaze Senior Center, 13969 Veny Webb, El Paso, El Paso County, Texas 79928-7054, beginning April 28, 2004 and continuing through Tuesday, May 11, 2004. The Early Voting Clerk shall keep the office for early voting by personal appearance open for such purposes from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or official State holiday.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted at all locations within El Paso County, at which Early Voting is conducted by the County Election Department beginning on April 28, 2004 and ending on May 11, 2004.

The early voting ballot applications and ballots by mail may be sent to Helen Jamison, County Elections Department, 500 E. San Antonio, Room 402, El Paso, Texas 79901. Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of the business day on the 7th of May, 2004. Ballots by mail must be received by the presiding judge by 7:00 p.m. on May 15, 2004. If you are mailing your ballot from outside the United States, the early voting clerk must receive your ballot by May 20, 2004.

Only qualified, registered voters of the said District shall be entitled to vote at said election.

Such election shall be held and conducted and returns made to the Board of Directors of the District in accordance with the Texas Election Code, as modified by Chapter 49, Texas Water Code, as amended.

/s/Kenneth W. Osmond
President, Board of Directors

ATTEST: /s/John Navidomskis
Secretary, Board of Directors

NOTIFICACION DE ELECCIÓN

A LOS VOTANTES CALIFICADOS DE DISTRITO MUNICIPAL DE SERVICIOS PUBLICOS DE LA REGION DE HORIZON Y A TODAY AQUELLAS PERSONAS INTERESADAS:

Se notifica por la presente que DISTRITO MUNICIPAL DE SERVICIOS PUBLICOS DE LA REGION DE HORIZON (el "Distrito") celebrara Elecciones de Directores para el Distrito, y dentro del mismo, el día 15 de mayo de 2004 desde las 7:00 a.m. a las 7:00 p.m. en El Paso, El Paso County, Texas, con el objeto de que los electors residents debidamente calificados voten para dos (2) directores para los posiciones de directores 1 y 2. Cuyo lugar de votación sera Horizon Heights School, 13601 Ryderwood para los Numeros de Distrito Policial 147 y 166, en Desert Hills Elementary School, 300 Eastlake para los Numeros de Distrito Policial 157, 167 y 168, y para el Numeros de Distrito Policial 148 en Sparks Community Center, 12899 Sparks Drive, ubicado dentro del Distrito.

El condado del departamento de las elecciones del El Paso designara a juez de presidencia y cualquier juez o vendedor de presidencia alterno requerido.

La votación anticipada mediante presentación personal se llevara a cabo en el Oz Glaze Senior Center, 13969 Veny Webb, El Paso, El Paso County, Texas 79928-7054, a partir del miercoles 28 de abril de 2004 y hasta el Martes 11 de mayo de 2004. Secretario a cargo de la votación anticipada tendra abierta la oficina para esta votación mediante presentación personal desde de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. todos los dias excepto los sabados, domingos o feriados oficiales del estado.

La votación anticipo en persona se llevara a cabo en todos locaciones en el Condado de El paso, en donde se lleva a cabo votaciones tempranas manejadas por el Departamento de Elecciones del condado empezando el 28 de abril de 2004 y terminando el 11 de mayo de 2004.

Las boletas de votación anticipada para votar por correo pueden obtenerse del Secretario a cargo de la votación anticipada, y enviarse por correo al mismo, El Paso County Elections Department, 500 East San Antonio, Suite 402, El Paso, Texas 79901. Aplicaciones para las boletos por correo deben ser recibidas los mas tardar para el día de cerrar de negocio el Viernes día 7 de mayo, 2004. Balotas mandadas por correo deben ser recibidas por el juez presidiendo a las 7:00 p.m. en mayo 15, 2004. Si esta mandando su balota fuera de estados unidos, la secretaria de votar debe recibir su balota para mayo 20, 2004.

Solo los votantes residents calificados de dicho Distrito estaran autorizados a votar en dicha elección.

La misma se celebrara y llevara a cabo, y se expediran las actas a la Junta de Directores del Distrito, de acuerdo con elCodigo Electoral de Texas, conforme a la modificacion del Capitulo 49, Codigo de Aguas de Texas, segun enmienda.

/firmado/Kenneth W. Osmond	DOY FE:	/firmado/John Navidomskis
Presidente, Junta de Directores		Secretario, Junta de Directores

Overpriced NFL players are scuttling the college draft and trading system

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

What the heck is happening to the NFL?

There was a time when the league ruled over the players. There was a time when an organization did what was best for itself. There was a time when a team did what it had to in order to get better.

Those days are gone forever, and it's the NFL's own fault.

I don't ever want to hear the NFL complain about how it's losing its grip on the system.

It used to be that the worst team in the league got some help every year by selecting first in the following college draft.

The laughing stock of a pro team could attempt to climb the NFL ladder by adding a good crop of college players to its roster.

And it used to be that a player was honored just to be chosen, no matter where he went.

That is all over.

During last week's NFL draft, the projected top pick, Mississippi's Eli Manning, son of Archie, brother of Payton, was poised to be chosen by the San Diego Chargers.

Ah, to be a ga-zillionaire and live in San Diego...

Just a few days before the draft, Manning decided he didn't want to play with San Di-

ego. I say "Manning" because I'm still not sure whether it was Eli, or his daddy Archie, who made the decision.

Anyway, Eli Manning said that if he were chosen by the Chargers, he wouldn't sign and he threatened to sit out the year and re-enter the draft next season.

Talk about a whiner.

What is Eli's problem? Very bad PR move.

Eli Manning went from a pretty likable guy to a disgruntled crybaby in matter of days.

So what did the Chargers do? They did exactly what Eli wanted. They traded him to the New York Giants, where he claims he wanted to play all along. I say "claims" because after a few interceptions and sacks, Manning will be eaten alive by the New York media and fans.

And Manning is not the only one.

A month ago, king crybaby, Terrell Owens, threw an NFL-sized tantrum when he learned he had been traded to the Baltimore Ravens. He threatened to hold his breath until the 49ers allowed him to go to the Philadelphia Eagles.

Guess what, Owens got what he wanted. He's an Eagle.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. Once players begin to put things together, and fully realize that they can run the show even more than they are already, the NFL will take a nosedive.

That old saying, about the inmates running the asylum, will become a reality, only we'll

get to watch it on TV.

It's funny, the players want all the millions because, as they always say, it's a business. Well, being drafted is a part of business, and being traded is a part of business.

Players tend to forget that, especially when they don't agree with the business move.

It's time for the NFL to take back its league and force some of these selfish money-grubbing morons to shut up, play football, and take their millions.

See, I don't feel sorry for a man who is a little disgruntled for playing a kid's game, doesn't have to work at a real job, and cashes checks with six zeros in them.

I feel sorry for that single mother who's just put in a 14-hour day, in an attempt to put her kids through college.

I feel sorry for that guy in the wheelchair trying to make it on his own.

I feel sorry for Pat Tillman, who turned down the millions and gave his life to defend his country and make life better for people he didn't even know.

Americans tend to throw around the word "hero" like a ball in a playground. But true heroes can be found doing something to help others, not doing something solely for themselves.

Terrell Owens and Eli Manning should be ashamed of themselves.

But I doubt they are.

Tornillo secures second playoff berth for this week

TORNILLO — The Tornillo Softball Team wrapped up the season securing their second playoff berth by defeating The Marfa Shorthorns by a score of 6-3. Although only the third year in existence, the team has made the playoffs the last two years in a row. The Lady Coyotes will play Wall in the bi-district game the weekend of April 30 in Abilene, Texas. The team ended the season with a record of 10-7, placing them second in district. In district 1-AA, the team was 6-2.

The leading batters for the season are Mayra Estrada batting .640, Maggie Gomez batting .520, Jessica Rocha batting .480 and Kaleena Ramos batting .490. Mayra and teammate Maggie Gomez served as team captains.

The Lady Coyotes starting pitcher Carina Peña had a very good season. "This is her first year pitching and I could not be more pleased with her growth as a pitcher," said head softball coach Leroy Joffre. Coach Joffre is pleased with the performance of the Lady Coyotes this season. "We played very strong against Marfa this past week to end the season, so I'm expecting the team to play as well or better against Wall in the playoffs," stated Joffre.

Assisting Coach Joffre with the Lady Coyotes are assistant coaches Marlene Bullard and Rachel Hyde.

Classified Ads

LEGAL

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR WATER QUALITY TPDES PERMIT AMENDMENT FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER PERMIT NO. 10166-001

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. El Paso County Water Control and Improvement District No. 4, P.O. Box 3880, Fabens, Texas 79838-3880, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a major amendment to TPDES Permit No. 10166-001 to authorize an increase in the discharge of treated domestic wastewater from a daily average flow not to exceed 670,000 gallons per day to an annual average flow not to exceed 1,200,000 gallons per day. This application was submitted to the TCEQ on August 5, 2003.

The facility is located approximately 8,000 feet

southeast of the intersection of State Highways No. 20 and 76 near the town of Fabens in El Paso County, Texas. The treated effluent is discharged to the Fabens Waste Canal; thence into a series of ditches; thence into the Rio Grande Below Riverside Diversion Dam in Segment No. 2307 of the Rio Grande Basin. The unclassified receiving water uses are no significant aquatic life uses for Fabens Waste Canal. The designated uses for Segment No. 2307 are high aquatic life uses, public water supply, and contact recreation. In accordance with 30 TAC §307.5 and the TCEQ implementation procedures for the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, an antidegradation review of the receiving waters was performed. This review has preliminarily determined that no high quality waters have been identified in the stream reach assessed, no significant degradation is expected of high quality waters downstream, and existing uses will be maintained and protected.

The TCEQ executive director has completed the technical review of the

application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The executive director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, fact sheet, statement of basis/technical summary and executive director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at the El Paso County Water Control & Improvement District No. 4, 117 East Main Street, Fabens, Texas.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit written or oral comment or to ask questions about the application. Generally, the TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public

meeting is not a contested case hearing.

Written public comments and requests for a public meeting should be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of the notice.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **The response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who requested to be on a mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the execu-**

tive director's decision. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues that were raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn. Issues that are not raised in public comments may not be considered during a hearing.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The executive director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or a timely request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the executive director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and requests to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST.

In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. You may request to be added to: (1) the mailing list for this specific application; (2) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (3) the permanent mailing list for a specific county. Clearly specify which mailing list(s) to which you wish to be added and send your request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above. Unless you otherwise specify, you will be included only on the mailing list for this specific application.

INFORMATION. If you need more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. General information about the TCEQ can be found at our web site at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from El Paso County Water Control and Improvement District No. 4 at the address stated above or by

calling Mr. Horacio Juarez, P.E., Brown and Caldwell at (915) 545-4400.

Issued:
APR 07 2004

WTCC: 04/29/04

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:

AIR HANDLER REPLACEMENT FOR SLIDER, BENITO, SANCHEZ AND ESCONTRIAS SCHOOLS CSP NO. 199-0505-0468 WEDNESDAY, MAY 05, 2004, UNTIL 2 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-04/29/04

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT

SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT is requesting the submission of REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR SERVICES, in the SOCORRO ISD, EL PASO, TEXAS. **Request for Qualifications may be submitted until 10 a.m., Monday, May 10, 2004.** Qualifications forms may be obtained from and submitted to the SISD Education Center, Business Services Department, located at 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928, phone (915) 937-0168. Submittals are to be clearly marked at the left lower corner of the envelope: "Professional Services, RFQ No. 199-0510-0477." **Late and Faxed Qualifications State-ments will not be accepted.**

Request for Qualifications (RFQ) are also available at District's website: www.sisd.net

Socorro ISD retains the right to accept or reject any and all submittals in the

best interest of the school district. WTCC-04/29/04

BARGAINS

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SELF-HELP

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081 for information.

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solución. Informacion: 838-6264.

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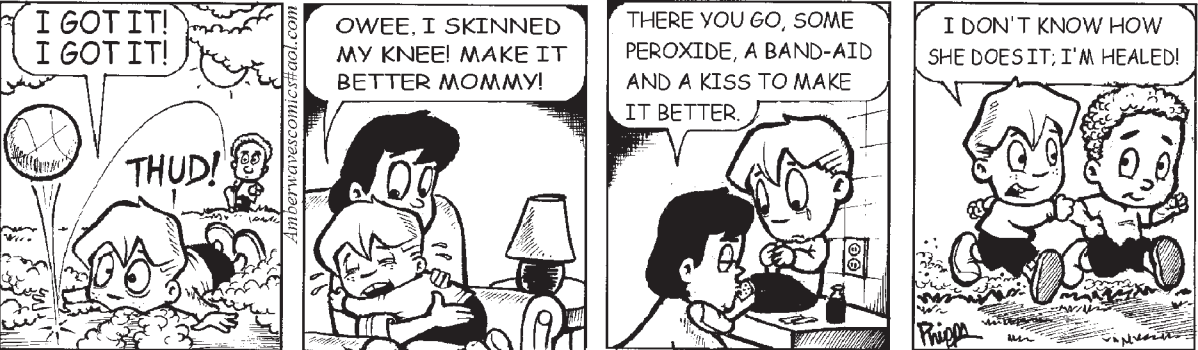
OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



The times sure are changing

By Don Flood

“*The Times, They Are a Changin’*” — Bob Dylan, singer, songwriter, pitchman for Victoria’s Secret underwear.

I swore once I’d never use that way, way overused Dylan line. Judging by how many politicians mouth it you’d think it was required by federal election laws. But, doggone it, that was then and this is now and the times, well, they are a changin’.

The other night I was half reading the paper and half watching TV when on came a Victoria’s Secret commercial.

For a multi-tasker such as myself, this was no problem. I can easily monitor both newspaper articles and TV supermodels.

It was the typical ad, showing a young supermodel prancing around in underwear and heels and, of course, wings.

(For some reason, the wings bother me. Call me old-fashioned, but I prefer women without flying appendages. They seem more down to earth.)

But then the ad cut away from the winged supermodel, and I saw the old familiar face of...

I couldn’t bring myself to say it. I said to wife, “Is that...? Is that...? It looks like... It looks like...”

My wife, who was able to process the information much more quickly, said, “Yes, it’s Bob Dylan.”

It was — BOB DYLAN, glaring out at me from the television.

Bob Dylan, aging ’60s radical, aging rock legend, aging cultural icon — aging Victoria’s Secret model?

OK, he wasn’t prancing around in Victoria’s Secret underwear (or wings), and he wasn’t involved in any wardrobe malfunction, but still: *It was Bob Dylan.*

I couldn’t have more surprised if Donald Trump had come on to say he had become the newest member of the Hair Club for Men.

And the weird thing is, Dylan didn’t even seem happy about being in the commercial.

He had a stern Old Testament prophet glare that seemed to say, “You shouldn’t be watching this commercial, especially while you’re pretending to read the paper.”

“Well, hey Bob,” I wanted to shout back, “you shouldn’t be appearing in this commercial. You should be espousing something pure and noble.”

Dylan is, in fact, the very last person I’d expect to see in a Victoria’s Secret ad, except maybe Abraham Lincoln, and he doesn’t really count because he’s dead.

OK, maybe the pope.

But those two are it. Dick Cheney? Sure, he’d do it in a heartbeat, especially if Ann Coulter were one of the flying underwear girls.

Elvis? Yeah, I can see that, even if he is dead.

But Dylan? Younger readers must understand: Dylan was once called a sell-out because — get this — he played *electric* guitar at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival.

Back then, that was all it took to be considered a sell-out.

I wonder what Dylan would do now to shock the folk festival crowd — add supermodel pole dancers?

To quote another Dylan line, “There’s something going on here but you don’t know what it is, do you Mr. Jones?”

No, I don’t, and I’m afraid to ask.

(c) 2004 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Super Crossword

IN CHARGE

ACROSS

1 Weaken

4 O'Connor's "The _ Hurrah"

8 Composer Bartok

12 "Ad _ per aspera" (Kansas' motto)

17 Meadow mamas

19 Pro foe

20 Sleep like _

21 Wide belts

22 Comic_book hero

25 "Oh, How I _ Get Up..."

26 Error's partner

27 Procure

28 _ Paulo, Brazil

30 Tons of time

31 Box up

34 Masters

Tournament site

38 Urban problem

39 Animated TV series

42 Hwy.

43 Bud

46 Taj town

47 Tallahassee sch.

48 Rita _ Brown

49 Tankard filler

50 Step parts

52 Even if, informally

54 Durango district

57 Maestro Lorin

59 Rent

61 "The Hustler" setting

63 Crowded

65 "Just _ thought!"

66 Petite pest

67 Genetic info

68 Actress Anna

70 Tammany Hall name

73 Left open

74 Item in a lock

75 Premiere

77 Baby butter

78 Fracas

81 Advance

83 "This _ Moment" ('60 hit)

85 Hut

88 Van of "Shane"

89 Cycle starter

91 Barely there

93 Baseball stat

94 Pinnacle

95 _ roll

97 Bailiwick

98 TV's "My Sister _"

99 "Gotchal"

100 '80 Stevie Wonder hit

106 Worry

107 Result

108 Singer Stratas

111 Knock

112 Russian river

113 Superlative suffix

116 Sans emotion

118 Lets up

121 "F Troop" role

127 Kidman of "To Die For"

128 Columnist

Bombeck

129 Notion

130 Silvers or Spector

131 Hardened

132 "_ of the Cat" ('77 hit)

133 Side

134 _ Aviv

5 Sothern or Sheridan

6 Forest father

7 Use a stopwatch

8 Musical measure

9 Lilly of pharma-ceuticals

10 Rapper Tone _

11 '92 Wimbledon winner

12 Battery letters

13 Fast way to the UK

14 O'Neill drama

15 Shot another photo

16 For _ (cheaply)

18 "Unsolved

Mysteries" host

21 Shallow area

23 Jai _

24 Coup d'_

29 Part of NATO

32 Sluggish sorts

33 _ Benedict

35 Like some TV channels

36 "Beau _" ('39 film)

37 "No dice!"

38 Bandit Belle

40 City on 112 Across

41 Polo's place

43 Shriver of tennis

44 Dothan's st.

45 '64 Shangri-Las hit

48 Boy or boar

50 Cartoon canine

51 Lip lash?

53 Mayberry moppet

54 Marsh

55 New Rochelle

college

56 General Bradley

58 _ Buddhism

60 Alaskan city

62 "Against All _" ('84 film)

64 Recedes

66 Curative

68 Frosh's superior

69 Grocer's measure

71 Eject

72 Assumed manes?

73 _ standstill

75 Wet blanket

76 Velvet finish

79 Graceland, for one

80 Yesterday's your

82 Rub it in

83 Sal of "Exodus"

84 Irene of "Fame"

fame

86 La-la lead-in

87 Tasty tuber

90 Coll. cadets

92 Tree house?

96 Jacket part

99 Lawrence's locale

100 "Archie" character

101 Great bird?

102 Dash of "Clueless"

103 Fast-food favorite

104 Cleveland's lake

105 Summarize

106 French bread?

109 Vision

110 TV's "Kate & _"

114 "M*A*S*H" Emmy winner

115 "The _ Is High" ('80 hit)

117 Say "Hey!"

119 Low digit

120 Knight time

122 Hapsburg dom.

123 "_ Believer" ('66 hit)

124 Corn portion

125 Grazing ground

126 Rin Tin Tin's mother

SAP LAST BELA ASTRA
EWES ANTI ALOG SASHES
CAPTAIN AMERICA HATETO
TRIAL GET SAO EON
ENCASE AUGUSTA SMOG
KING OF THE HILL TPK
PAL AGRA FSU MAE
ALE RISERS THO BARRIO
MAAZEL LEASE POOLROOM
DENSE ASI MIDGE RNA
STEN BOSSTWEED AJAR
OAR DEBUT KID SETTO
PROGRESS MAGIC SHANTY
HEFLIN TRI SCANTY ERA
TOP ONA AREA SAM
AHA MASTERBLASTER
FRET OUTCOME TERESA
RAP OKA EST ICTLY
ABATES CHIEFWILDEAGLE
NICOLE ERMA IDEA PHIL
CAKED YEAR TEAM TEL

Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: I have a neighbor who is getting Social Security disability benefits, yet he often works weekends for his brother doing landscaping work. Is this illegal? And what can I do about this?

A: There are circumstances in which a person can do some work and still receive Social Security disability benefits. But if you suspect that your neighbor is doing something that Social Security should be made aware of, you can call our fraud

hotline at 1-800-269-0271.

Q: I plan to retire in October 2004. Even though this will be a “short” work year for me, I should make more money in 2004 than in any other year I ever worked. Will my Social Security retirement benefit amount include credit for the earnings I will make (and the Social Security taxes I will pay) from January through September 2004?

A: Yes, but not at first. We cannot

adjust your benefit to credit you for yearly earnings until the year is over. So, sometime in 2005, you will get an automatic increase in benefits that takes into account your 2004 earnings. You should get it by mid-2005, and the increase will be retroactive until January 2005.

Q: I am a 26-year-old welder who is married with two small children. When I was just out of high school, I worked for a company that reported my income using an incorrect Social Security number. My grandfather told me I do not need

to correct this because those two years will not be used in my Social Security retirement benefit calculation anyway. Is he right?

A: Because Social Security retirement benefits are based on your highest 35 years of earnings, he might be right about the years not being used in your eventual retirement benefit calculation, but he is wrong when he advised you not to correct your records. If you become disabled, the years in question might be an important part of your disability benefit calculation. Or if you should pass away, any survivor’s

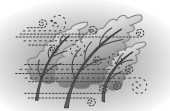


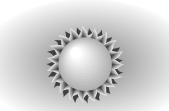




benefits due your family could be smaller because of the missing earnings on your record. Call 1-800-772-1213 to correct your earnings record — and it would help if you have W-2 forms or any other information about the employer and the earnings in question.

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
							
Very windy with sun and some clouds.	Clear and windy.	Mostly sunny.	Sunny and warm.	Partly sunny.	Warm with a good deal of sunshine.	Mostly sunny.	Sunshine and some clouds.
▲ 82°	▼ 54°	▲ 78° ▼ 54°	▲ 84° ▼ 58°	▲ 88° ▼ 60°	▲ 86° ▼ 54°	▲ 84° ▼ 56°	▲ 84° ▼ 56°

UV INDEX

Statistics for noon.

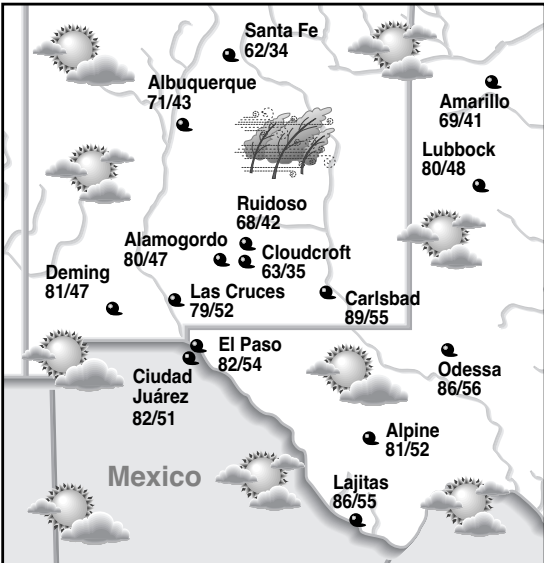
The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	82	55
Canutillo	82	55
Clint	82	55
E. Montana	82	54
Fabens	82	55
Horizon	83	56
San Elizario	79	53
Socorro	81	54
Tornillo	82	55
Vinton	82	55

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	71/43/pc	68/46/pc	75/48/s	78/50/pc	75/47/pc
Atlanta	76/56/s	74/58/t	72/56/t	74/54/s	72/52/s
Atlantic City	70/50/s	72/51/s	68/50/t	66/48/sh	64/44/s
Austin/San Antonio	82/64/pc	79/56/t	78/55/pc	81/59/s	81/53/s
Baltimore	78/52/s	80/54/s	72/50/t	68/48/sh	64/43/pc
Boston	72/52/s	74/54/s	66/50/pc	62/46/sh	59/46/pc
Chicago	74/48/t	58/42/sh	52/36/pc	54/40/pc	59/36/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	82/64/pc	72/52/t	74/56/s	73/57/s	75/53/s
Denver	34/30/sn	52/34/pc	64/38/pc	64/38/c	65/41/c
Flagstaff	58/25/pc	66/28/s	70/30/s	72/36/pc	69/35/s
Houston	82/66/t	82/62/t	78/58/pc	78/58/s	80/62/s
Kansas City	67/48/t	58/47/r	62/42/sh	63/45/sh	68/44/pc
Las Vegas	80/58/s	86/62/s	90/66/s	91/65/s	89/65/s
Miami	83/74/sh	83/73/t	84/72/t	85/72/t	85/69/t
Minneapolis	52/34/r	53/35/pc	53/36/pc	51/39/r	57/37/c
New Orleans	78/64/t	76/64/t	74/60/t	76/62/s	81/60/s
New York City	72/56/s	76/58/s	68/52/t	62/50/sh	64/48/pc
Philadelphia	76/54/s	80/56/s	74/52/t	66/50/sh	64/47/s
Phoenix	92/62/s	91/66/s	95/67/s	94/68/pc	94/66/s
Portland	78/48/s	80/49/s	79/50/s	73/49/s	70/49/s
San Francisco	74/50/s	67/51/s	68/52/s	68/52/s	67/52/s
Seattle	71/48/s	76/48/s	74/48/s	68/47/s	64/48/s
Tucson	85/56/s	88/56/s	90/59/s	92/59/s	92/61/s
Washington, DC	78/56/s	80/56/s	72/54/t	68/52/sh	66/47/pc

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

AGRICULTURE

Expect mainly dry weather over the next week with a ridge of high pressure in control. Windy Thursday, then lighter winds Friday into Saturday. Daytime highs will average in the 80s and overnight lows in the 50s to around 60.

All forecasts and maps provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2004

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- Hydrostatic transmission

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\$2,599**

- 18 HP Briggs & Stratton V-Twin Vanguard™ engine
- 42" QuickAttach™ deck
- Heavy-duty shaft drive



Model GT 3204
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\$5,598**

- 23 HP Kohler engine
- 44" shaft-driven VersiDeck™
- Heavy-duty shaft drive



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*Deferred Interest until April 2005—Deferred Interest with Payments—Must request promotion at purchase. Offer is subject to credit approval by GE Capital Consumer Card Co. and applies to purchases of \$799 or more made between December 3, 2003, and May 31, 2004, on your Power Credit Card. No finance charge will be assessed on your promotional purchase balance if you pay the promotional purchase balance in full by the end of the promotional period. If you do not, periodic finance charges will be assessed on the promotional purchase balance from the date of purchase. Minimum monthly payments will be required on your promotional purchase balance during and after the promotional period. If minimum monthly payments are not paid when due, all special promotional terms may be terminated. Standard account terms apply to non-promotional purchases and, after the promotion ends, to your promotional purchases. Annual Percentage Rate for purchases is 18.99% (18.99% minimum) as of December 1, 2003, and may vary after that date. Minimum Finance Charge \$1. Variable APR of 22.99% as of 12/1/03 will apply if you fail to pay your minimum payment by your due date for two consecutive months. Financing promotion for residential customers only.
**Product price—Actual retail prices are set by dealer and may vary. Taxes, freight, setup and handling charges may be additional and may vary. Models subject to limited availability.
***Cub Cadet will provide an extended limited warranty for a period of 5 years or 500 hours, whichever occurs first, for the frame and pivoting cast-iron front axle on all new Cub Cadet Series 1000 tractors purchased after December 1, 2003. Cub Cadet will provide an extended limited warranty for a period of 5 years or 500 hours, whichever occurs first, for the frame, pivoting cast-iron front axle and drive shaft on all new Cub Cadet Series 2000, 2500, and 3000 tractors purchased after July 31, 1998. This additional limited warranty is available only to residential users and not commercial users. For complete details on 2-year and 5-year limited warranties see your Cub Cadet retailer. C11135-04-55080-1

