



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Big black smoke

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office dispatch was flooded with calls last Thursday about noon due to a large, black cloud of smoke billowing into the skies in the desert area between Horizon City and El Paso. The fire, at 13682 Bacimba, reported began near a stack of wooden pallets, and subsequently ignited two utility poles, the cab of a tractor trailer and exploded several tanks of diesel fuel. No injuries were reported at the scene, at a business called JFM Pallets, reportedly owned by Jose Marquez. However, residents in a two-block radius were evacuated. as a precaution. Fire crews from Horizon City, Montana Vista, Clint, Socorro, Fabens and San Elizario reported to the scene, as did crews from the El Paso Electric Company, who restored electrical power. Damage from the blaze was estimated at about \$80,000 and the case was referred to the Environmental Crimes Unit of the Sheriff's office.

### Hueco anniversary

It's been 20 years since the Mission Valley's Hueco Elementary School opened its doors to students and this week marks Homecoming Week at the campus to celebrate the school's anniversary. "We had been talking about ways to celebrate the anniversary, and so we came up with the idea of several events," says teacher Ruth Harris.

- The first awards ceremony is planned for May 19 for first graders at 9 a.m. A second 1 p.m. ceremony will honor second graders. Third graders will gather in the gym at 9 a.m. May 21 for awards, followed by fourth graders at 1 p.m.
- The fifth-grade assembly is scheduled for 1 p.m. May 21, and a homecoming dance is planned for 2 p.m. All students are welcome.
- The week's events culminate in a community picnic and health fair scheduled for 9 a.m. 3 p.m. Saturday, May 22. The public is invited to enjoy fun, food and live entertainment from The Leza Group. Cookout facilities will be available, and the health fair will feature medical screening tests such as those for glucose and cholesterol. Immunizations will also be available. Keith McClellan is the principal of Hueco school, and Irma Rodriguez is assistant principal. For more information about these events, call Ruth Harris, 937-7600. The Hueco campus is at 300 Old Hueco Tanks Road.

### In other news

■ Horizon City's first official lawman, former Horizon City Marshal and Police Chief Bill Rutherford, has been diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor and he will begin undergoing radiation treatments in about two weeks, he said this week. He said the tumor is inoperable, but he said he is in no pain, and his mind is clear. He encouraged friends and neighbors to "stop on by."

■ Persons wanting input into future rural and small urban transportation project funding may do so in a public hearing on May 25, 5 p.m. at the County Commissioners' Court Meeting Room, #304, at

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*The government is concerned about the population explosion — the population is concerned about the government explosion.*  
— Quips & Quotes

## Canutillo ISD and EPCC urge MPO to complete Loop 375 during Vinton meeting

By Don Woodyard  
Courier Staff Writer

VINTON — Two top educators stood together in asking the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for assistance in expediting the completion of Loop 375 to Doniphan Drive.

"We desperately need your help," said Charles Hart, superintendent of the Canutillo Independent School District. He joined with Dr. Richard Rhodes, president of El Paso Community College, in addressing the MPO at its meeting last Friday in the West Valley Fire Department in Vinton.

Hart said that with the completion of Loop 375, there could be a "back door" access to both EPCC's Northwest campus as well as the campus of the new Canutillo High School now under construction. The superintendent spoke of it as a quality of life issue, not only improving quality of life for area residents and students, but for all people using the roadway.

Rhodes envisioned his campus and the new CISD facility as becoming the "finest educational complex in the county and the best example of cooperation between the community college and the school district, cooperating in every way for the future of young people."

While the process of having a back door to the campus is in development, there will be assured access to the two educational facilities.



### Career advice given by the men who go in first

CANUTILLO — Childress Elementary School Career Day gave students an opportunity to learn about a variety of professions. Shown in photo is West Valley Fire Department Volunteer Mat Feltner demonstrating equipment that firefighters use in their job. "Over 30 representatives from area businesses and agencies came to our fair to show students what their professions entailed," said Ruben Cadena, Childress ES Counselor.

— Contributed by Alfredo Vasquez

ties. Alfredo Vasquez, public information for CISD, said there would be a "front door," a

See MPO, Page 2



— Photo by Alfredo Vasquez

**BREAKING GROUND FOR WATER** — Village of Vinton officials and special guests held a ground breaking ceremony recently to mark the beginning of the installation of El Paso Water Utilities water lines in the Upper Valley community. From left are Juvencia Rios-Ontiveros, alderperson; Margarita Payan, alderperson; Barbara Kauffman, representative for West Texas Rio Grande Council of Government; Jose Luis Alarcon, alderperson; Antonio Castro, mayor; Ed Archuleta, general manager of El Paso Water Utilities; Congressman Silvestre Reyes, House of Representatives 16th District; Dolores Diaz, alderperson; Charles Hart, Canutillo ISD superintendent; Yolanda Lucero, alderperson.

## Agronomics Center a little closer to construction in Vinton

By Don Woodyard  
Courier Staff Writer

VINTON — The Vinton Village Council cleared an obstacle to the construction of the Agronomics Center on the Rio Grande adjacent to Childress Elementary School in the Canutillo Independent School District.

The council, at its May 4 meeting, approved a change in the zoning ordinance for a special permit to construct the agricultural facility on 75 acres of land. "It can do only positive things for the students and the community," said Dr. Monica Reyes, director of curriculum and evaluation for the district, who outlined the project to council members.

According to its mission statement, in part,

the Agronomics Center will "provide students in El Paso County an opportunity to study agricultural science, agronomics, agribusiness and participate in active research." The formal name of the center was proposed for approval at the May 12 board of trustees meeting.

She said center would be built with outside financial resources and would not be a burden to taxpayers.

The first phase of the project would be the construction of an arena complete with bleachers, animal pens and restroom facilities. Subsequent phases will include classrooms, offices and horse stables.

Construction on the \$4 million project is expected to start soon.

Water service projects also came under discussion at the meeting. Hector Gonzalez, str-

## County grants ownership of Rio Vista Farm to Socorro

SOCORRO — Socorro Mayor Irma Sanchez announced Monday afternoon that the County of El Paso has honored a long-standing request from the City of Socorro and relinquished ownership of the historic Rio Vista Farm complex to the City of Socorro.

"We (Socorrans) want to thank the all the County Commissioners and Judge Dolores Briones, and especially Commissioner Miguel Teran, for this gift," she said. "We've done a lot of work there, as we will continue to do, and it will continue to benefit Socorro and the entire county."

Formerly known as the County Poor Farm, which housed indigents during the Depression, the complex of buildings on Rio Vista Rd. also served as housing years later during the *braceros* farmworkers program which brought Mexican workers to the U.S. in the 1950s.

Designated as a historical site by the Texas State Historical Commission, the 12.37 acres has about 24 buildings on it, 10 of which have been upgraded and refurbished for use as a community center, a Sr. Citizens Nutrition Center and other functions, spending about \$700,000 in the process.

Mayor Sanchez said the transfer of title clears the way for Socorro to invest in further development of the complex for which the city has a master plan. She said ownership by Socorro will clear the way to apply for historical grants, a process that was hindered by county ownership.

"They (Socorro) have master planned the site to become one of the County's historical jewels," Teran said in his recommendation to turn ownership over to Socorro, citing that Socorro has already "demonstrated its commitment to the preservation of the Rio Vista Farm."

## Socorro election date to be decided by courts after measure fails at polls

SOCORRO — Socorro voters turned down a request on May 15 to grant the Socorro City Council the right to amend the City Charter to allow for redistricting. The election results dictate that the courts will have to sort out the situation.

As a result of the vote of 79 in favor of the measure, 83 against, the date when Socorro voters will have opportunity to select new mayor and council may have been drawn closer than it would been had the measure passed. Council had estimated September as the election month.

Depending on how quickly the city gets the measure before a district judge, council will redraw existing boundaries of voting districts outdated by population shifts and growth, and set a new date for councilmen to be elected.

Socorro Mayor Irma Sanchez said it was to soon to outline any definitive time table regarding the legal process.

In a badly divided council, a new election would be welcomed to balance the voting process on city matters as the vacancy created by the death of Sam Brewster would be filled. Mayor Sanchez has said she intends to seek reelection.





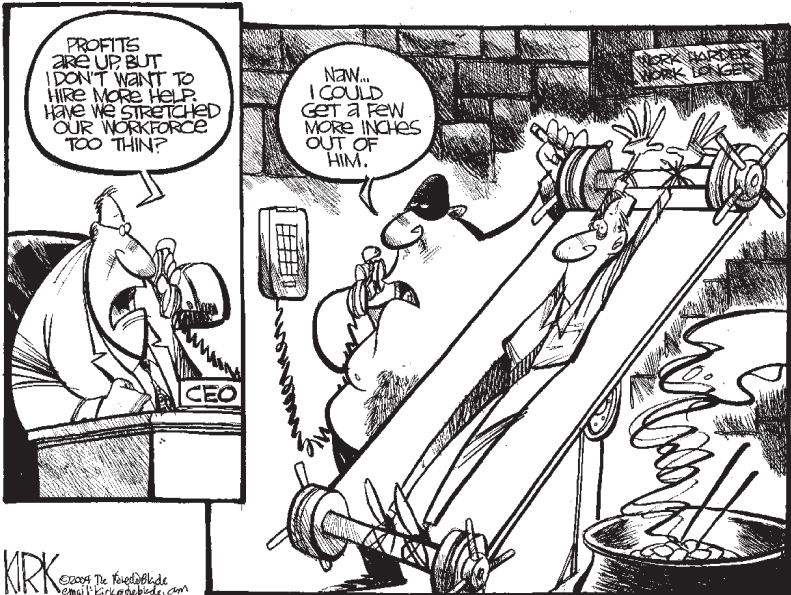
# One perspective


By Francis Shrum

# One size

acters who are willing to kill themselves and everybody else within bombing reach to fight against it. Sorry, but one size does not fit all. The American people are among the most short-sighted people in the world. I’ve read that Americans plan a year in advance, and only for issues directly related to themselves, their individual families, goals and interests. In comparison, China plans centuries in advance and that planning is all about the survival of their civilization, their culture, long after the current leaders are dead. Now, obviously, you can’t shove all Americans or Chinese or Iraqis into the same mold because of their race and say they are incapable of changing or learning a new way of life. And there are some positive changes in Iraq, especially in the realm human rights and the welfare of women. But those changes are superficial and extremely fragile. I can’t help but wonder how long they’ll survive once the enforcing Americans are gone. As far as changing the basic nature of Iraqi culture, we’d have about as much chance of converting Saddam Hussein to Christianity. I saw a television drama recently about a family of Egyptian immigrants who ran afoul of the law when they sought to perform “female castration” on their teenage daughter. When the authorities intervened, the mother cried out: “So what, your way of life is better? Your young women dress and act like whores and get pregnant with unwanted babies before they are old enough to understand how to care even for themselves!” I abhor the “medical” procedure that so many families believe will protect the sanctity of their women, but she did have a point. The forces that continue to fight

our troops in Iraq are basically of the same mindset. What they are saying is that, given what we have, they figure they can do a much better job of administering it, and they don’t plan to quit until they do. What I’ve always thought is that we could take Saddam out any day and there would be an endless line of men just like him waiting to take his place. It is going to take a force far more powerful and wiser than the United States of America to bring sanity and security to that society. While the average American citizen may have been shocked and dismayed by the pictures of prisoner abuse by American soldiers, I can guarantee that the Middle Eastern society was not. For people who live in an environment where children are routinely sent out to blow themselves up in an effort to improve the enemy body count, and where the oldest son of Saddam Hussein was routinely delivered the choicest young girls of early school age for his pleasure by school officials, there’s not much left that *is* shocking. No, this was the kind of thing they expected, and that made them a whole lot more realistic than our own leadership who cried out that this kind of thing just isn’t done by American troops. Without excusing it one bit, I would respectfully submit that it *is* and has always been the kind of thing that is sometimes done by otherwise stable and civilized men who are subjected to the horrendous pressures of environment and circumstance that war brings. The fact that a terrorist faction quickly whipped up and delivered a video-taped execution of an American citizen only shows that they simply believe that we are playing a game at which they are far more skilled and adept — the brutalization of other human beings. Thankfully, I’m not the president and it isn’t my decision, but as long as we are dead set on improving other societies with the idea that one size — namely, ours — fits all, we’ll continue to find ourselves forever the misfits.





# WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY VINTON, CASUTELLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FARENS, SAN ELIZABO AND TORNILLO

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## MPO

From Page 1

shared “boulevard” for entry to and exit from the frontage roads paralleling I-10. The Texas Department of Transportation said it is ready to go on the project and that 90 percent of the construction plans have been completed. However, the biggest obstacle to beginning the project is acquiring the necessary right of way from landowners for the extension of Loop 375. The responsibility for acquiring the land is the responsibility of the City of El Paso, pointed out Charles Berry Jr., TXDOT’s district engineer for the El Paso District. “We are ready to move forward.” El Paso Mayor Joe Wardy gave his support. “This is a very worthwhile project; we are very supportive of your efforts.” He added he wanted to work together with the school district

and EPCC “in moving the project forward.” Northeast City Rep. John Cook, who attended the MPO meeting, said afterwards that there was no way that cost of acquiring the land, estimated at around \$4 million, could be paid for out of the general fund. He said the city was looking into obtaining some of the land through donations and tapping into outside funding sources. “It will be a long process,” he said. He indicated that 2006 would be an “optimistic” time frame for getting the land. Cook added that city staff members have been directed to gather and put together data for the project. State Rep. Joe Pickett suggested that re-prioritizing TXDOT projects might be necessary to move the project forward — to push something else out. “You’ll see a change when you see a champion for it,” Pickett said. “I believe it will move forward.” The controversial issue of toll

roads in the El Paso area was also on the MPO meeting agenda. Berry said “we don’t plan” to convert existing roads to toll roads. However, he did not completely rule out toll roads in the future. If there was an “overwhelming” need for expanding existing roads, the new lanes could become toll roads. The TXDOT engineer said no action would be taken on toll roads without public input through meetings. Pickett told Berry that he had been told bluntly by an unnamed individual that the El Paso region would risk losing state funding unless it agreed to establish toll roads. Berry said he was unaware of such a policy. Wardy reaffirmed his earlier comments. “We are not against toll roads,” he said. The mayor went on to say he would go along with toll roads once the El Paso area has “basic transportation infrastructure” in place. He said it was not a matter of whether there will be toll roads, but rather when, and where they will be built. “We (MPO) will make the decision as to where there will be toll roads,” Pickett pointed out. A motion was then passed that the entities which comprise the MPO would be polled to determine their priorities for possible toll roads.

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# Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

## UTEP hosts border security seminar

On a daily basis, El Pasoans experience what it means to live in the post-September 11 world on the border. El Paso and Juárez have a history of international cooperation and have dealt with post-September 11 security obstacles with the needs of our community in mind. However, these times of heightened security make it difficult to strike a balance between safety and our daily routine of cross-border travel and business. As the front line of defense for our nation, it is critical that the national strategy for homeland security incorporate the unique needs of border communities, including lessons we have learned since the terrorist attacks. It is the only way to safeguard not only our country, but

our economy and quality of life as well. I am working with UTEP, the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce, the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the El Paso Black Chamber of Commerce to bring *Border Security: The New Realities* to El Paso on Tuesday, May 25. This analytical look at security along the border will cover biological terrorism, security technology, and economic and trade issues. In addition to local officials such as Mayor Joe Wardy and UTEP President Diana Natalicio, we will be joined by Rep. Jim Turner (D-TX), the Ranking Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security, and Dr. Elizabeth Duke, the Administrator of the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration. We have in-

vited key players from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Centers for Disease Control, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Armed Services Committee, as well as others with expertise and insight into border related issues. For more information, please contact my office at 534-4400 or visit my website at [www.house.gov/reyes](http://www.house.gov/reyes). RSVP by calling UTEP at 915-747-8244 or e-mailing [URConferences@utep.edu](mailto:URConferences@utep.edu). The agenda includes the following topics: The Economy, Security and Risk; Intergovernmental Cooperation, Training and Emergency Preparedness; Legal Security, Civil Liberties and Privacy Issues; Why Border Communities are Different in the Homeland Security Landscape; Security, Economic Development and Trade; and Regional Expertise, GIS and Security.

# Remembering the price of freedom

As we approach the Memorial Day weekend, let us step back from the usual festivities associated with the kick-off of the summer season and reflect on the service that many an American has given our nation to make us free.

Our other national holidays would have no meaning if it were not for the sacrifices made for freedom that we honor on Memorial Day. It may seem cliché, but it is true: Freedom does not come without a price. We may sometimes take for granted the many liberties we enjoy in America, but they have all been earned through the ultimate gift given by so many of the members of our armed forces. So many soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines have died for our liberty and prosperity, for peace and stability. They knew when they put on their uniform that there was no guarantee of safety and went off to follow orders without questioning and acted obediently with patriotism and commitment to their country. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude. We can make another payment on that debt this Memorial Day.

Memorial Day touches the hearts and memories of Americans like no other national holiday. The Fourth

of July celebrates our independence. Thanksgiving expresses gratitude for our blessings. Veterans' Day honors those who served. But Memorial Day honors those who made

the ultimate sacrifice to preserve that independence and those blessings.

Memorial Day combines the meaning of every other national holiday. It is on this day that we remember and pay tribute to the brave men and women who throughout history gave their lives upholding our freedom.

No other country in the world has sacrificed so many of its sons and daughters to secure not only its own freedom, but that of other nations. For after foe after foe have thought Americans were too soft and too selfish to endure. More than a million heroes have proven them wrong.

This Memorial Day, I hope we will all take some time to remember the meaning of that day. Our freedom was earned by that heroic multitude who fought with unrivaled courage and gave their lives for their country. Memorial Day is a time to reflect on those sacrifices and remember them in our prayers. It is a time for us to show those who gave their lives that their country loves them as much as they loved it.



By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

## Eye on D.C.

## Write stuff

### Dear Editor:

I want to extend my gratitude and appreciation to the community members of Fabens, Texas. Your vote and great support in allowing me to serve another term as a director for the El Paso County Water Control and Improvement District #4 is greatly appreciated. At this time my objective is to improve the quality of our drinking water and the improvement project of the waste water system.

The wastewater plant is over 50 years old and has basically reached its capacity. If the wastewater plant is not updated, violations can occur and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) can start issuing monthly fines for not being in compliance. As far as water rates, this District's rates are one of the lowest in El Paso County. As director and member of this community, it is my main priority and objective to keep water rates as low as possible.

We need to keep in mind the need

for improvements, replacement of old equipment, and expansion.

I also want to report that the current board members are highly committed and are volunteering their valuable personal time free of charge. Directors are not being compensated for attending meetings. I'm open to any new ideas and recommendations from the community. Recommendation can be mailed or dropped off at the District's office. I want to encourage community members to join us during our monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of every month.

**Mario Aguirre**  
Director (Board President)  
Fabens, Texas

### Dear Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the residents of the Village of Vinton for allowing me to have the honor to serve as your mayor for the past two years. It has been the most exciting time in my life. Thanks

also to the council members who served with me. Many positive accomplishments were completed and others were started such as the municipal water system and the widening of Vinton Road. And a special thanks to the 55 voters that gave me their vote of confidence last Saturday. Let's all rally and give our new mayor, Mrs. Juvencia Rios-Ontiveros, our 100 percent support and let's move forward!

**Antonio Castro Sr.**  
Former Mayor  
Village of Vinton

**TRUE TEXAS FACTS** by Roger T. Moore, "Fritos" were invented in San Antonio in 1933.



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## 2004 UTEP WOMEN'S POSITION CAMP

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

El Paso Empowerment Zone Corporation  
201 E. Main Street, Suite 603  
El Paso, Texas 79901

West Texas County Courier  
May 20, 2004

TO: All Interested Agencies, Groups and Persons:

Seventeen (17) days after this publication, the EPEZ of El Paso, Texas, intends to request the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-383) for Project No. RH-03-TX-I-0100, Tornillo Housing Project, for the construction of 10 homes in Tornillo, Texas.

## Environmental Assessment Activities

The work entails the reconstruction of dwellings that meet or exceed the (HUD approved) County of El Paso Colonia Housing Standards. The maximum grant amount is \$35,000. The projects will be limited to families owning or purchasing a lot. The El Paso Empowerment Zone plans to use federal funding to provide affordable housing to families in the Drake Subdivision Units 1,2,4,5, and 7. Federal funding will be used to pay for improvements to existing dwellings or to rebuild substandard housing. All of the work is on private property and environmental issues caused by the construction will be addressed. Among the expected concerns are temporary dust and noise due to construction; handling of potentially hazardous materials; and the disposal of debris.

## 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 County of El Paso 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 at the Office of Community Development, El Paso County Courthouse, 500 E. San Antonio, Suite #313, El Paso, Texas 79901, and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday thru 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 El Paso Empowerment Zone 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 County 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 EPEZ will undertake the activities described above with HUD Rural Housing Economic Development Program funds under Title I from its Program Year 2003 under grant numbered RH-03-TX -I-0100, Tornillo Housing Project. The County of El Paso is certifying to HUD that Ms. Dolores Briones, in her official capacity as County Judge, 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 County of El Paso may use the Block Grant funds and it will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. HUD will accept an objection to its approval only on one or more of the bases and the procedures described in 24 CFR Part 58.75. Objections are to be addressed to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, PO Box 13941, Austin, Texas 78711.

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

Phyllis Rawley, Executive Director

# Briefs

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500 E. San Antonio in El Paso. The Texas Dept. of Transportation will conduct the meeting and hear input on proposed amendments which affect the state and federal funding formulas used for rural and small urbanized public transportation providers. Information: Ginnie Grayson at 512-416-2867.

■ The Texas Gas Service has filed an application with the Town of Anthony, Village of Vinton, Town of Horizon City, Town of Clint, the City of Socorro and El Paso to increase its rates about 12 cents a month for residential customers. It is also requesting an economic development rate to assist with economic development initiatives, which will add about nine cents a month to the average residential gas bill. If approved, both requests will increase the average yearly bill by \$2.52.

■ The Canutillo Class of 1984 is planning a 20th Class Reunion Meeting on Friday, May 21 at Sunland Park Casino. Information: Melissa Leos-Jordan at 204-4507.

■ An anonymous phone call resulted in the seizure of 623 pounds of marijuana in last Wednesday. The caller said a 1981 Ford Bronco was seen crossing into the U.S. east of the Ft. Hancock Port of Entry, according to Border Patrol agents. They located the truck on George Dieter Drive in El Paso, finding it contained marijuana valued at \$498,000. The 29-year-old Mexican citizen driving the truck was arrested. In a second seizure, agents began following a mud-covered Ford truck riding unusually low on I-10 near Tornillo. When he spotted the tail, the driver fled toward the border and abandoned the vehicle, absconding on foot into Mexico. It contained about 778 pounds of marijuana, valued at \$623,000.

■ Playoff games for the Socorro ISD Parent Volunteer After-School Soccer Program will be 4:30 - 8 p.m. May 21 at the SISD Student Activities Complex, 1300 Joe Battle. Games for first and second place teams during the regular season and the 3rd place winners for the District playoffs are scheduled. All school teams will participate in a parade after the final games and trophies will be given out after the procession.

■ The No Limits Track Club, which participates in Junior Olympics track and field events, has begun practice at the John O. Ensor Middle School track, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays. Boys and girls, ages eight to 18, are invited to participate. For more information call Dick Harshberger at 852-9082.

■ Cheerleaders from the El Paso region are invited to participate in the annual Cheerleading/Dance Camp at Americas High School, sponsored by the National Cheerleading Association and the National Dance Alliance, June 24-26, and the program includes cheer and chant routines, leadership and team-building skills plus squad motivational techniques. The entry fee is \$99 per participant, and the fee for coaches and directors is \$55 each. The train-

ing is part of the Nation Cheerleaders' Association professional certification for instructors. For more information, call Rose Delgado, (915) 760-6670 or Darlene Bahr, 585-1797, or e-mail Delgado at rdelgado@nationalspirit.com.

■ For many West Texas residents who are ill and have low or no incomes, it is now simpler, faster, and easier to possibly obtain free or significantly discounted medicines through patient assistance programs available from pharmaceutical companies, which are launching a Web-based tool on <http://www.helpingpatients.org>. It provides easier and faster access to more than 400 different medications through the 40 different patient assistance programs offered by the pharmaceutical companies that manufacture those medications. "Fast Access" allows patients or their health care provider to enter data once and that data is then fed to the various assistance programs to determine where there might be a match for that patient. All applications must be approved by the patient's health care provider, so patients or their caregivers may use the tool, print out the forms and then work with their health care provider to submit the applications or the health care provider may handle the entire process for the patient.

■ Americas High School drama students, members of the Elenco Americas theatre company are planning three performances of the musical drama *Man of La Mancha*, based on the stories of famed Spanish writer Miguel de Cervantes about Don Quixote de La Mancha and his sidekick Sancho Panza. The show produced a number of hit songs, including "To Dream The Impossible Dream." Shows are scheduled for 6:30 p.m. May 20, 21 and 22 in the school's Blazer Theater, 12101 Pellicano Drive. Pre-performance tickets are \$3 each, while general admission tickets are \$5 at the door. For more information, call 937-3077.

■ The Texas Department of Health (TDH) announced today that because of recent jumps in wholesale and retail milk prices, it has increased the amount of money allocated on vouchers issued to WIC nutrition program clients for milk and cheese. But vouchers issued before today's change may not cover the increased prices when presented at supermarket checkouts. TDH raised the maximum amount WIC will pay for a gallon of milk from \$4 to \$4.50 and the maximum amount for a pound of cheese from \$4 to \$4.50. WIC clients are issued vouchers used to pay for milk, cheese, infant formula, cereal, juice, eggs, peanut butter, beans, tuna and carrots at participating grocers. Grocers then bill the WIC program the shelf price of the item or the voucher amount, whichever is lower. Congress awarded additional funding to the USDA to help state WIC programs deal with increased expenses from food price increases and growing caseloads.

■ The El Paso County 4H Youth are offering a flea and tick dip on June 12, 2004 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Pets Barn at 1790 N. Zaragosa. The youth are offering the services to help the community with the increased tick prob-



Briefs

From Page 4

lem due to the warm weather. The services are offered by donation (no minimum) and proceeds benefit area 4H youth activities including the 4H dog project that is just getting started. Pets Barn is donating the location and supplies to make this event possible. Youth will be volunteering one Saturday each month through September to make this happen. For information, call the County Extension Agent or 4H rep at 859-7725.

■ The Mission Valley’s Robert Rojas Elementary School is hosting a health fair on May 22 at 500 Baumann Road. Open to the public, 25 to 30 organizations will provide medical tests such as screenings and immunizations. Games and free food will be offered. Information: 937-8500.

■ Skipping class was on the agenda for a few of the Fabens High School and Middle School teachers recently when they were excused from classes for a full day to receive staff development on computer programs that are a part of the curriculum. A portion of the day involved an update on A+, which is used in credit recovery classes both during the school day and after school from 4-6 p.m. A+ is a computer program that is correlated to the TEKS and contains the required courses in English, Math, Science and Social Studies. Students who are behind in credits work through the classes at their own pace and acquire credits at a faster pace than in the regular classroom. Additional training was received in “Open Book,” which is a reading program.

■ Canutillo Elementary School took first place overall at the UIL competition recently held at W.D. Surratt Elementary School in the Clint Independent School District, according to spokesperson Kim Guzman. Other schools that competed in the meet were W.D. Surratt Elementary, Desert Hills Elemen-

tary, C.T. Welch Elementary, O’Donnell Elementary, Risinger Elementary, Fabens Primary, and Frank Macias Elementary. CES had six students win first, three students won second, four students placed third, as well as 14 students who placed in 4th, 5th, and 6th in their events. Both the CES Art Contest team and the Music Memory team won 2nd place overall in their events. Canutillo ES Primary Division (K-2) took third place overall and CES’s Elementary Division (3-5) took first place. “These competitions improve students skills and promote interest in competitive events, as well as help prepare students for middle and high school,” stated Dianna Whitaker, Canutillo ES teacher and UIL Coordinator.

■ The Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) La Tuna’s Community Relations Board sponsored a drawing contest. The Board is made up of FCI La Tuna staff, local school superintendents, the mayors from the Town of Anthony and the Village of Vinton, the Anthony Police Department Chief of Police, and representatives from the Anthony Chamber of Commerce and the El Paso Black Chamber of Commerce. Students from La Mesa and Desert View Elementary Schools competed to draw the best possible design logo for the Village of Vinton. There were over 150 entries ranging from grades Kindergarten to sixth grade. The first place winners were acknowledged for their artistic abilities and presented certificates during a Village of Vinton Council meeting held on May 4, 2004. During the ceremony, Vinton Mayor Antonio Castro and Israel Jacquez, Executive Assistant at FCI La Tuna, presented the students with a pin and their certificates. Mayor Castro reminded the students of the importance of public service. First place winners from La Mesa Elementary School were: Andres Acosta, Mark Salomon, Jenny Appelzoller, Gina Silva, Miracle Herrera, Sergio Ramos, Adrian Sotelo, Jason Jaurequi, Jenifer Whitmer. The winners from Desert View Elementary School were Caroline Rodriguez and Cesar Chavez.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT  
IMPACT ON THE ENVIROMENT AND NOTICE  
TO REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUND

Organizacion Progresiva de San Elizario  
1444 Main St. / P.O. Box 2149  
San Eliario, TX 79849

West Texas County Courier  
Published:  
May 20, 2004

**To All Interested Agencies, Groups and Persons:**  
Seventeen (17) days after this publication The Housing Assistance Council will request the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development to release Federal Funds under the Self-Help Home Ownership Opportunity Program.

**PROJECT NAME:** Organizacion Progresiva de San Elizario Self-Help Construction Program  
**PURPOSE:** This project will provide FY 2003 funds for the construction and land acquisition of 10 acres of vacant land in San Elizario, TX. The land will be used for the construction of (24) twenty-four single family three bedroom houses targeting low-income families.  
**LOCATION:** Census Tract No: 155 located in the outskirts of San Elizario, TX.  
**EST. COST:** \$161,616.00 (for site acquisition) in Self-Help Home Ownership Opportunity Program Funds.

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
It has been determined that such request for release for funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly the County of El Paso Texas has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190).

- The reasons for the decision not to prepare such a statement are as follows:**
1. Negative impacts to the environment as a result of the project are not anticipated.
  2. Disturbances (noise and dust) will be of a temporary nature and should cease upon completion of the project.
  3. The project will not affect or be affected by the 100 year flooded plain.
  4. No effect is expected to protected or endangered wildlife or vegetation.
  5. The project will not affect archaeological sites or historic structures.
  6. Negative demographic impacts to the community, including community facilities and services, are not anticipated.

An Environmental Review Record for the proposed project has been made by Organizacion Progresiva de San Elizario of San Elizario, Texas which documents the environmental review to the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such a statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the Office of Organizacion Progresiva de San Elizario, 1444 Main St. San Elizario, TX 79849, and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. An additional copy for review will be on file at the County of El Paso, 500 E. San Antonio St. El Paso, TX 79901.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON FINDING**  
All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by The County of El Paso. Such written comments should be received at the address specified above on before. All such comments so received will be considered and the County of El Paso will not request the release of funds or take any administrative action on the within projects prior to the date specified above.

**RELEASE OF FUNDS**  
The County of El Paso will undertake the project described above with FY 2002 Self-Help Home Ownership Opportunity Program (SHOP) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The County of El Paso is certifying to HUD that the County of El Paso and County Judge Dolores Briones, in her official capacity as County Judge, consent 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, Organizacion Progresiva de San Elizairo may use the FY 2002 Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program (SHOP) funds and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

**OBJECTIONS TO STATE RELEASE OF FUNDS**  
HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following basis: (a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the chief executive officer of other officer of the applicant approved by HUD; or (b) decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process; (c) other specific grounds in HUD regulations at 24 CRF 58.75. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58), and may be addressed to HUD at 200 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Objections received after fifteen (15) days from the date of request of funds stated above, will not be considered by HUD.

Dolores Briones, County Judge  
County of El Paso, 500 E. San Antonio St., El Paso, TX 79901

Public Notice  
Town of Horizon City

The Town will hold a Swearing-In-Ceremony for the newly elected Council Members on Monday, May 24, 2004 at 5:00 PM. The ceremony will take place at Town Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas.  
  
Citizens are invited to meet and welcome our new and current council members. Refreshments will be served. Come and join us!

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City Clerk

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# Media replays should have a time limit and cover all the angles

By Steve Escajeda  
*Special to the Courier*

I really hate to mix sports and politics but the two have crossed paths in a most distasteful way recently and I just couldn't restrain myself any longer.

I've been watching the television a lot lately and I see the same thing over and over again. No, not a story concerning the final episode of *Friends*. No, this is something else just as bad.

I can't surf the channels without catching something about the so called "prisoner abuse scandal." How many times do I have to see and hear how bad the United States is... from the United States media.

How often do you hear the name Pat Tillman anymore? How about the name Nicholas Berg?

Remember Pat Tillman? He was the former Arizona Cardinals football player who rejected all kinds of big money to go back into the military and defend his country after the terrible terrorist attacks on New York and the Pentagon.

Pat Tillman, of the Hollywood good looks and dare-devil attitude, died for his country in Iraq and after a few days of feeling bad for him and his family, we're back to the more important story — the 7-10 idiots that humiliated several Iraqi prisoners.

How about Nicholas Berg? He sure got his 15 minutes of fame didn't he? Al Qaeda thugs did a little more than humiliate Mr. Berg.

They wrestled him to the ground, took out a sharp blade and cut his head off. If that wasn't enough one of the thugs grabbed his head by the hair and held it up in triumph in front of the camera to send a message to American mothers everywhere. This is what will happen to your sons if they come over here.

Do you think Nicholas Berg was humiliated as much as the Iraqi prisoners? Too bad we'll never have the opportunity to ask him.

I guess we now know the difference between humiliation and torture, don't we?

Mr. Berg's 15 minutes are up, though. You don't hear that much about him anymore. By the way, have any of you had the opportunity to see the video of the decapitation?

Me either. The American media wouldn't want to rally the American people against the enemy would they? But I just saw another shot of the naked Iraqi human pyramid again about half an hour ago.

Don't get me wrong. The actions of those stupid prison guards were reprehensible, but let's have a little perspective, people. Let's get back to at least a speck of common sense.

This is war. And sometimes some very unpleasant things happen during war. Ask the Jews about World War II. Those people suf-

fered some atrocities.

Do you believe some American journalists and politicians have used the word "atrocities" and "American prisoner abuse scandal" in the same sentence.

I get the feeling that we're losing focus on the big picture. And the more we keep trying to find fault with everything the Bush administration and the United States is doing, we're setting ourselves up for another deadly attack of some kind.

Heck, I even heard Juan Williams of FOX-TV (*while watching the perverted actions of those American prison guards*) say this is not what America is about. I almost fell off my chair.

"Juan," I yelled, "Have you ever watched MTV, or any other cable TV show lately? Have you ever watched the 10 o'clock news? Have you ever heard any of the latest song lyrics? Have you stepped inside a movie theater lately or rented a video game?"

It's all around us, death, mutilation, disrespect, drugs, adultery, violence, theft, promiscuity, sexual abuse, etc. And most of it is marketed to our kids!

To say this is not what America is about is totally incorrect. I can watch a whole lot worse than what those Iraqi prisoners went through, on my TV tonight.

And yet Tillman and Berg's time in the lime-

light was short.

Remember one of things Usama Bin Laden said just after the 9-11 attacks? He said that America was weak, that Americans didn't have the stomach for any kind of confrontation. He said America will fight with itself over the ugliness of war.

Boy, are we turning him into a prophet. And I thought he was just a tyrannical murderer.

The real dirty little secret the media won't report is how well things are going in other parts of Iraq. Kids are going to school, businesses are opening and running again, the infrastructure is being repaired and women are taking on roles never before allowed.

And all without the cloud of Saddam Hussein hanging over them.

It just aggravates me when men who deserve recognition, like Pat Tillman and Nicholas Berg, get less attention than a few numbskulls who should be put in jail.

Let's stop playing politics and start concentrating on the business at hand. Some American politicians and journalists are doing a disservice to two countries, the USA and the new Iraq.

Remember 9-11 — it seems so long ago, doesn't it? It seems so long ago that we were united as a country. I guess everything gets old... except for... there's that prisoner abuse photo on TV again...

## Horizon City gets street money but no new town hall

HORIZON CITY — Voters in Horizon City want street improvements but decided to put plans for a new town hall on hold, according to results of the May 15 election.

In proposition one of a bond proposal, the vote was 348 to 190 in favor of a \$750,000 street improvement program. In proposition two, it was thumbs down, by a smaller margin, 213 to 244, rejecting a \$450,000 proposal to construct a new town hall.

Aldermen were also selected by the voters in that election. In place one, Byron Taylor will serve, with 277 votes over write-in votes of 118. In place four, Walter Miller retained his seat over challenger Ben Garza, 229 to 218. In place six, incumbent Bethani Sellers lost to challenger Jack L. Rutledge, 204-190.

Carol Straughan, president of the El Paso Chile Festival, informed the Horizon City Council, during open forum at the regularly

scheduled City Council meeting on May 11, that an upcoming Chile Cook-Off that will take place in Horizon City on Sunday, June 6, 2004 at 14000 Horizon Blvd., in the High Desert Plaza. There will also be a Bean Cook-off and a Salsa Cook-Off. The cost for participants in the Chile Cook-off is \$15, and the price for participants in the Bean and Salsa events is \$5. There will be awards given for places 1-10 for Chile Cook-Off participants and places 1-3 for Bean and Salsa participants.

In other business, City Council approved a 24 month lease contract with the Horizon City Youth Association for \$1 per year for storage area at the park. This lease involves mainly the sport of baseball.

In two separate agenda items, City Council approved parkland dedication and improvement, in lieu of parland fees for Horizon Mesa Unit 3 and for the Land of Texas Unit One.

— Arleen Beard contributed to this story

## Election results

### Anthony/Vinton

In the Town of Anthony, the position of place four on the council was on the ballot, won by Demetrio C. Cuellar with 82 votest over Rosie Holguin who won 72. In the Village of Vinton, Juvencia Rios-Ontiveros was selected as the new mayor with 67 votes, over Antonio Castro Sr., 55; Dolores Diaz, 44; and Larence Tucker, 3. On the Vinton village council, place two, Patsy R. Leos will be seated after winning 81 votes over Yolanda Lucero, 72.

### Town of Clint

Dale T. Reinhardt will be the new mayor of the Town of Clint, winning over challenger Steven Cheatum Sr., 175-65. The top two vote-getters in a three-way contest will sit on the Clint town council: Willie Alarcon, 197; Enrique "Henry" Franco, 100; and Ed Prado, 97.

### Water boards

The Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District seated Lillard Thompson in position one over Bruce Godfrey, 263-195. In position two, incumbent Bonnie Moorhouse retained her seat over challenger Howard Buck, 287-190. In the El Paso County Water Improvement District 4, the two top vote-getters won positions: Mario Aguirre, 214; Morgan Laird, 195; and write-in votes numbered 48.

### School districts

In the election for trustees of the Canutillo ISD, the top two vote-getters were selected from a field of six: Frank Lerma, 275; Carl M. Fietze, 261; Magarito Arellano, 237; Laure Searls, 225; Gonzalo Garcia, 177; and David Guzman Garcia, 59. Clint ISD, the top three vote-getters out of four contestants will take seats. The results were Paul James with 310; Mary Macias with 271; Fred Martinez,

See ELECTIONS, Page 7

## King Super Crossword

TIME WARP		60 "Rebel Without a	111 Buy off	30 Tasty tuber	81 Postfix
ACROSS		Cause" actor	112 Writer Paretsky	31 Wine word	82 Cover girl
1 Puccini heroine	61 Rocker Halliwell	113 End of remark	32 Deere things	Campbell	
6 Keen	62 "Man bites dog,"	117 Too heavy	33 Fess up	83 Poet Thomas	
10 Actress	e.g.	121 Mix with water	34 Poet Khayyam	85 Seductive	
Lanchester	63 Myrdal or Nelson	122 Inexperienced	35 Windmill part	86 Without value	
14 Be in charge	64 Fall behind	123 European capital	36 _ butter	87 Detect	
18 Fully developed	67 Encore	124 Talk really big	41 Actress Dunaway	92 Triangle part	
19 Farm measure	exclamation	125 Away from the	42 Fondness	94 Tennis term	
20 Sag	68 Flock female	wind	44 Printemps follower	95 Ignominy	
21 Inspect too	69 Norm	126 Richard of	45 Comic Elliott	96 Starch source	
closely?	71 Move, with "about"	"Intersection"	46 Machine parts	97 It's down in the	
22 Automaton	72 Spanish title	127 Rocker Van Halen	48 Neighbor of 116	mouth	
23 Start of a remark	74 "... some curds	128 Birth-related	Down	98 " _ Blue?" ('29	
by Doug Larson	and _		49 "Slammin' Sam"	song)	
25 Sue of "Lolita"	75 Tennis pro	DOWN	50 Bouquet	99 Zoo attraction	
26 Squander	Nastase	1 Pitch	52 Crone	101 It's tossed with	
28 Clinton's	77 Ralph of "The	2 "Deep Space	53 Simple life form	sauce	
hometown	Waltons"	Nine" role	54 Garr of "Mr. Mom"	102 Menotti title	
29 Woodland deities	78 Stiller's partner	3 Fill in	55 Glasses	character	
31 Sporting dog	80 "Appalachian	4 Circus performer	56 Loser to Truman	103 Novelist Alison	
34 Manifest	Spring" composer	5 Reach	57 Big bird	105 Place for pots	
36 Heredity letters	84 Part 3 of remark	6 Fowl feature	62 Jawaharlal's	107 Striped sprinter	
37 _ kwon do	88 Siamese	7 Feel sore	jacket	109 Path	
38 Antiquity,	89 Coup d'_	8 Wrath	63 Bellyache	110 Move a bit	
archaically	90 Good times	9 Permit	64 Terrier tether	111 Unadorned	
39 Born	91 Chucky, for one	10 Act like Etna	65 A Pointer sister	114 Dundee denial	
40 "Serpico" author	93 Yellowish brown	11 Stud site	66 Like Notre Dame	115 Hoopsters' org.	
41 "The Donkey	95 WWII site	12 Impresario Hurok	69 Early Brits	116 Newark's st.	
Serenade" composer	97 Room for research	13 Italy's _ Mountains	70 Baseball family	118 Put away a pastry	
43 " _ September" ('61	100 Ginnie _	14 Celeste or Ian	name	119 Police hdqrs.	
film)	101 Friend	15 Tut's turf	72 "M*A*S*H" Emmy	120 Sniggler's quarry	
45 Fire	104 EMT's skill	16 Maui greeting	winner		
46 James of "Misery"	105 Commandment	17 Obtuse	73 Actor Stephen		
47 _ facto	word	20 "Light My Fire"	74 Power unit		
51 Part 2 of remark	106 Remarkable	rockers	76 Urban transport		
58 Kind of clam	108 Talisman	24 Big bird	78 Carpenter's corner		
59 Dhamar's locale	110 Galaxy glitterer	27 "I told you so!"	79 List ender		

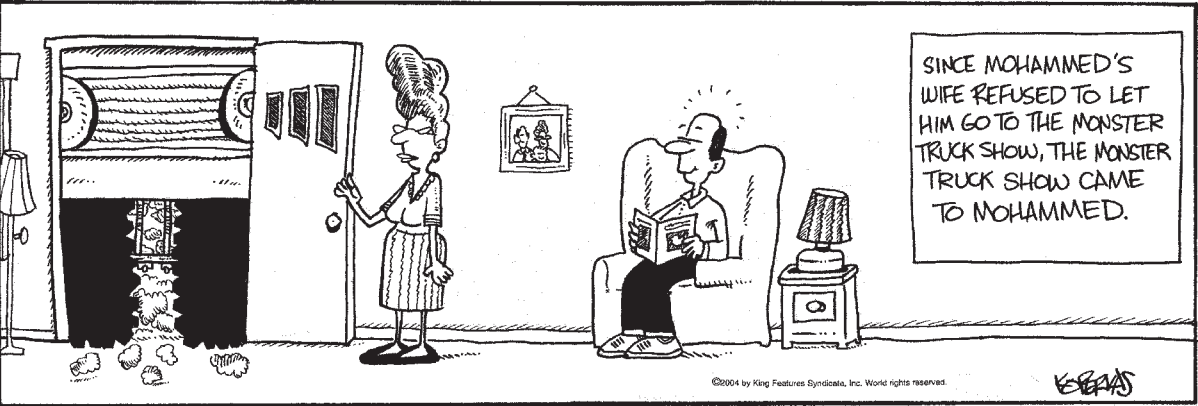
Answer Page 7



Comix

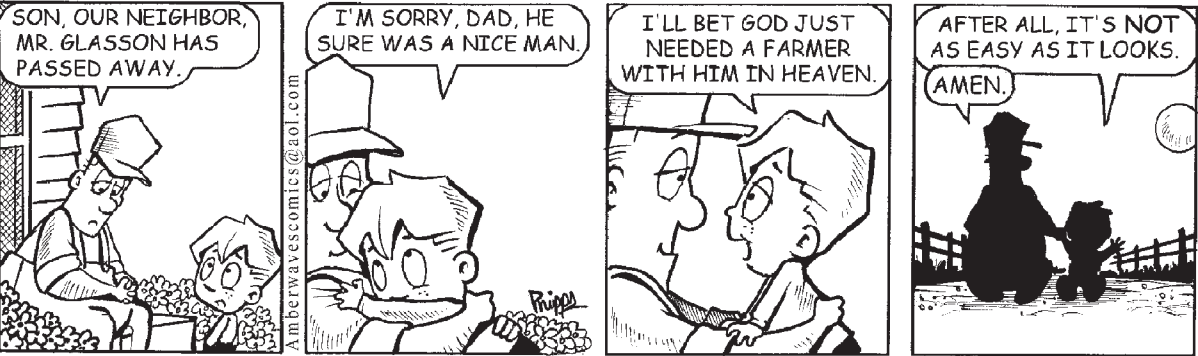
OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



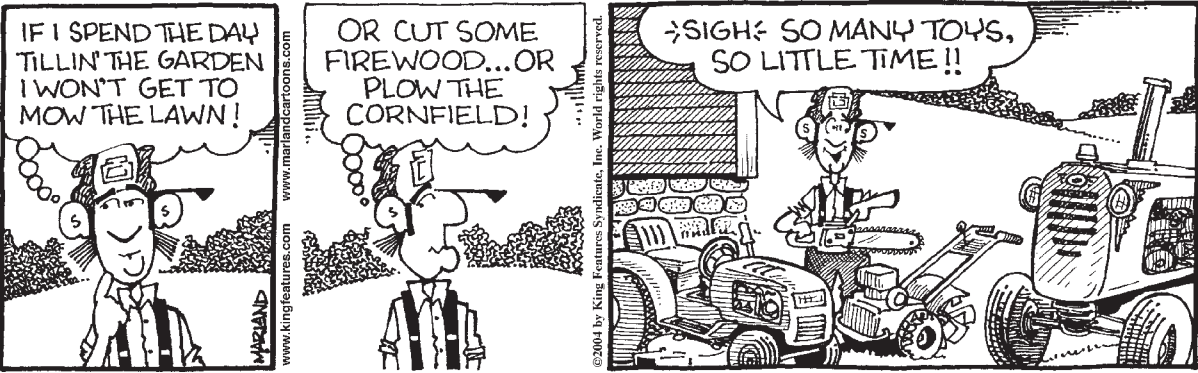
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D.

By Mike Marland



Kerry has hairy decision to make

**By Don Flood**

Barbie Adler, a Chicago match-maker, recently offered, on the front page of The Wall Street Journal, some advice for selecting John Kerry's running mate.

Kerry's choice, she said, should provide balance; specifically, she thought Kerry needed someone with: "less hair."

And this woman wasn't even a political science major!

A vice president's most important job, after all, is to step up in the event the president is unable to fulfill his duties.

In John Kerry's case that would most likely be on the day he gets his hair done.

In fact, judging by how perfectly coiffed he is, I'd say Kerry's weekly trip to the White House Beauty Parlor would be an all-morning affair — more if he gets his nails done.

So the last thing you want is some vice president worried about his hair. (Or her hair. Kerry has such a luxurious head of hair that many women could qualify on the all-important "less-hair-than-Kerry" factor.)

Oddly, the U.S. Constitution remains silent on the issue of a vice president's hair, mentioning only that the vice president should be "well-groomed and have a bodily odor that is pleasing to the nostrils."

What the Founding Fathers meant exactly by "well-groomed," of course, has been a hotly debated topic for more than 200 years, whereas the advance of indoor plumbing has largely rendered obsolete the requirement concerning a candidate's bodily odor.

Indeed, a group of political scientists recently determined that virtually all modern candidates pass the Constitutional "smell test."

But my real point is — while I

am not ready to officially announce my candidacy for vice president — I am ready to announce I have less hair than John Kerry.

Furthermore, I will be forming an exploratory committee that will confirm my scalp's qualifications for the job.

Naturally, I realize a vice president must bring more to the table than sparse hair.

A good candidate must provide the necessary balance in other crucial areas.

For example, John Kerry stands 6 feet 4 inches. I'm 5 feet 8 inches.

*Balance.*

Kerry has superbly nuanced views on international issues. I have a hard time finding Canada on the map. *Balance.*

And I'm not going to be out front, trying to steal the limelight from Kerry. I'll be the inside guy, once again providing the necessary balance.

In fact, I'd like to follow Vice President Dick Cheney's lead and remain hidden in a bunker somewhere. It just sounds so cool.

And you know it's not just some sterile, military-style bunker. I figure it's: the Greatest Bachelor Pad in the Free World — pool table, darts, an enormous wide-screen TV and plenty of pretzels, chips, dips and a fridge filled with cold brewski.

I wouldn't expect any less from the Bush Administration. After all, that's what we're fighting for, at least I think so.

But maybe we should just go back to powered wigs. That way everybody would have the same hair and instead of concentrating on silly things like hairstyles we could really conduct a meaningful discussion on national issues.

Nah — just kidding.

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Classified Ads

**LEGAL**

**El Paso Collaborative Invitation to Bid**

The El Paso Collaborative for Community & Economic Development is accepting bids for the construction of 10 new homes in Tornillo, Texas, starting May 21, 2004 and due June 4, 2004 by 5 p.m. Packets may be picked up at 1359 Lomaland, Suite 517, El Paso, Texas 79935. Bid packets are available at the El Paso Collaborative office, 1359 Lomaland, Suite 571 El Paso. Packets include a site plan and specifications. The homes need to meet visitability and exceed IECC 2000 code guidelines. The size of the homes average between 1,100 to 1,600 sq. ft. Eight (8) of the homes will be three (3) bedrooms and two (2) of the homes will be four (4) bedrooms. The Construction Contractor will be required to build 5 homes simultaneously. For further information, contact Delia Ponce at the Collaborative (915) 629-6702. WTCC-05/27/04

**FABENS ISD Invitation to Bid**

Sealed bids will be received by the Fabens Independent School District until 2 p.m., local time, Wednesday, June 9, 2004, bid number 03-04-01 Cafeteria Non-Food Bids. Bids will then be opened and read aloud at the Fabens ISD Central Administration Building in the Board room located at 821 N.E. "G" St., Fabens, Texas 79838, 915-764-2025. Bid packets may be picked up at the Fabens ISD Central Office. Bid awards will be awarded by the Fabens ISD board of trustees at their regularly scheduled board meeting in July, 2004. WTCC-05/27/04

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Elections

**From Page 6**

252; and Hector Rodriguez, 193. In the Fabens ISD elections, Rey Sepulveda Jr. won over Vicente "Chente" Telas, 232-157, for place three; and Daniel Salcido was tapped over Joseph "Burger" Rodriguez for place four, 221-167. In the Socorro ISD, district two, incumbent Martha Contreras was unseated by challenger John Page. Final vote tally was 250-181.

(City of Socorro and Horizon City are covered in other news stories.)



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Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

*Q: We recently began receiving our Social Security retirement benefits. But a neighbor said our daughter should be getting checks, too. She's 20 years old and a junior in college. Is she eligible for Social Security benefits?*

A: We generally only pay benefits to minor children. Once they turn 18, they are usually no longer eligible. However, benefits to children can continue to age 19 if they are still in high school — or even into their adult

years if they are disabled.  
*Q: I just got approved for a 10 percent disability pension from the Veteran's Administration. Can I apply for Social Security, too?*

A: You have every right to apply for Social Security disability benefits. But unlike the VA and some other disability programs, we do not pay for a partial disability. The law says that to be eligible for Social Security disability benefits, your condition

must be so severe that it will keep you from doing any substantial work and that it is expected to last at least one year or result in death.

*Q: I am 70 years old and getting widow's benefits from Social Security. I have been dating a man for some time. He wants to get married, but I worry that I'll lose my Social Security if I do. Someone told me that is no longer the case. Is this true?*

A: The Social Security laws affecting re-marriage and widow's benefits changed about 20 years ago. If you

are getting widow's benefits and re-marry after age 60, you can continue to receive those widow's benefits unless you can receive a higher wife's benefit on your new husband's Social Security record.

*Q: My mother gets monthly Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments. Will SSI help pay for a new walker that she needs to get around?*

A: The Supplemental Security Income program just pays a fixed monthly benefit based on your mother's living arrangements and her





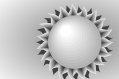


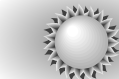
other income. But most people on SSI are also covered by Medicaid, and that program may offer some help. You should contact your local social services office (staffed by the people who run the Medicaid program) to find out if Medicaid can help pay for the walker.

For more information visit your local Security office, see [www.ssa.gov](http://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

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
							
Mostly sunny and warm.	Clear to partly cloudy.	Sunny to partly cloudy, breezy and warm.	A good deal of sunshine.	Plenty of sun.	Sunshine and patchy clouds.	Several hours of sun.	Abundant sunshine.
▲ 92°	▼ 67°	▲ 93° ▼ 66°	▲ 93° ▼ 63°	▲ 90° ▼ 62°	▲ 90° ▼ 57°	▲ 90° ▼ 61°	▲ 89° ▼ 61°

UV INDEX

Statistics for noon.

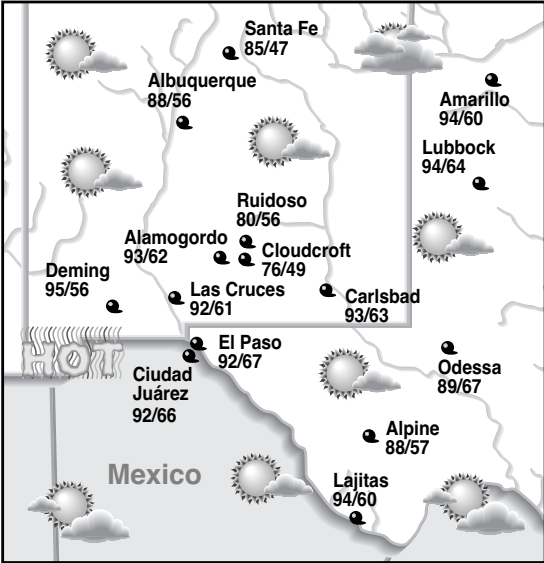
The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	93	65
Canutillo	93	66
Clint	91	66
E. Montana	92	67
Fabens	91	66
Horizon	93	68
San Elizario	89	65
Socorro	91	66
Tornillo	91	66
Vinton	93	66

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	88/56/s	85/55/s	81/52/pc	81/53/s	83/47/s
Atlanta	82/66/t	82/66/t	82/66/t	84/66/r	82/64/t
Atlantic City	72/58/pc	84/59/t	81/64/t	80/56/t	70/47/pc
Austin/San Antonio	87/66/pc	87/68/pc	89/68/pc	90/69/c	87/64/c
Baltimore	80/64/r	82/62/t	84/62/t	84/62/t	73/54/t
Boston	68/50/pc	72/56/pc	72/60/pc	76/53/sh	61/42/c
Chicago	82/60/t	76/60/sh	80/62/pc	80/50/t	69/44/t
Dallas/Ft. Worth	87/69/pc	87/68/pc	86/69/pc	84/70/c	87/65/c
Denver	75/49/t	79/48/pc	72/43/pc	70/46/c	71/45/pc
Flagstaff	71/38/pc	66/34/pc	66/34/pc	69/29/s	63/23/s
Houston	86/70/pc	88/70/pc	88/70/pc	90/70/pc	89/71/pc
Kansas City	87/68/c	86/68/pc	86/65/pc	80/59/t	83/58/sh
Las Vegas	89/64/pc	83/62/pc	83/62/pc	85/64/s	90/64/s
Miami	85/75/sh	85/76/sh	85/74/sh	85/72/pc	85/68/t
Minneapolis	67/51/pc	71/56/t	73/54/t	66/46/t	57/40/r
New Orleans	86/70/pc	87/70/pc	87/71/pc	88/70/s	88/66/s
New York City	70/64/t	77/60/t	78/62/pc	81/58/t	68/49/c
Philadelphia	78/64/t	82/62/t	82/62/t	82/62/t	71/51/c
Phoenix	98/71/s	90/67/s	91/67/s	93/68/s	96/68/s
Portland	76/52/pc	70/51/pc	67/49/sh	67/45/r	61/37/r
San Francisco	60/52/c	64/52/pc	64/52/pc	63/45/c	55/36/pc
Seattle	70/50/pc	66/50/pc	64/47/sh	64/43/r	57/35/r
Tucson	96/64/s	92/60/s	90/58/s	92/60/s	94/62/s
Washington, DC	80/66/t	86/66/t	84/66/t	83/61/t	80/58/r

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

AGRICULTURE

Warm and dry weather will continue to dominate the region over the next few days. There will be several hours of sunshine leading to good drying conditions this afternoon. High temperatures will be in the lower 90s through Saturday with overnight lows running in the middle 60s.

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