



NEWSBRIEFS

Free trees

Ten free trees will be given to each person who joins the National Arbor Day Foundation in September, according to the organization. As part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign, each person who pays a \$10 membership to National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410 by Sept. 30 will receive trees of a variety to provide benefits every season of the year and will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between Oct. 15 and Dec. 10 with instructions. The donation also gets members a subscription of a bi-monthly publication. You can also join online at arborday.org.

Valley toys

The Mission Valley Toy Drive/Dance will be Friday, Sept. 24 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at 10600 North Loop Rd. in the Mission Valley Ballroom to collect new toys for the children of Socorro and the Lower Valley to be distributed during the Second Annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Nov. 26. Admission is the donation of a new toy with the approximate cost of \$7 to \$10. The project is intended to provide about 1,000 children with a festive holiday gift, which will include candy, fruit pecans and peanuts. Donation of these items or cash donations for the project would also be appreciated. For information contact Margie Perez at 859-6424 or email margiepii@aol.com.

In other news

■ Canutillo Independent School District is seeking nominations for the 2004 Homecoming Outstanding Ex. Nominees should be distinguished in their respective field, involved in the community and must be able to attend the events personally during homecoming week, from Sept. 29 — Oct. 2. The deadline to submit a nomination is Sept. 13. For information: Alfredo Vasquez at 877-7481, email: avasquez@canutillo-isd.org or Kim Guzman at 877-7482, email: kguzman@canutillo-isd.org.

■ Clint High School is seeking nominations for Outstanding-Ex for this years Homecoming scheduled for Sept. 17. Nomination forms are available in the Clint High School office. Deadline to submit a nomination is Sept. 8. The theme for this year is "Blast from the Past." All Clint High School alumni are invited to the festivities. The Homecoming Parade will be Thursday, Sept. 16 at 5:30 p.m. at Clint High School. A reception for all alumni will be held in the new field house prior to the game on Sept. 17 at 5:30 p.m. The Homecoming game against Horizon High School will kick-off at 7 p.m. The community and alumni are also invited to

See BRIEFS, Page 7

The trouble with alarm clocks is that they always go off when you're asleep.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photos by Rick Shrum

TURN OF THE TAP — Theresa Lujan, left, Mayor Dale Reinhardt of Clint and Texas Secretary of State Geoffrey Connor turn the tap to officially inaugurate the water system in Burbridge Acres subdivision in Clint. This water ends 15 years of hauling potable water for the Lujans and marks the beginning of water service for 55 families.

Hard work brings water to Clint subdivision

Courier Staff Reports

CLINT — For years the families in the Clint subdivision of Burbridge Acres watched as other Lower Valley communities welcomed the gift of community water. Now it is their turn.

In special ceremonies last Friday, Aug. 27,

at the home of Rene and Theresa Lujan, a circle of local, state and national dignitaries gathered to turn the spigot and watch water flow. About 55 families in the area will soon enjoy the same benefit.

"They carried in their water, day in and day out for 15 years," said District 75 State Rep.

See WATER, Page 9

San Eli ISD adopts budget, holds line on tax rate

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

SAN ELIZARIO — The board of trustees of the San Elizario ISD has approved a budget of \$28.83 million and adopted a lower tax rate of \$1.5716 for the 2004-05 school year. Action came at a special board meeting Aug. 30.

Larry Worrell, director of finance for the district, and Ernie Rodriguez, research and development director, explained various aspects and elements of the proposed tax rate and budget. The new budget represents only a 1.98 percent increase over last year. The new tax rate com-

pares to \$1.5776 per \$100 property valuation for last year.

The board reconvenes Sept. 2 in another special board meeting with two major items on the agenda. Both are in reference to construction of an extension on the high school library approved at the Aug. 11 board meeting.

The first is to conduct interviews for and possibly select a construction manager at risk for the library project. The second will be to interview for and possibly select an architectural firm for design of the library extension.

The *Courier* was in error in reporting earlier that the architectural firm of Wright and Dalbin had been picked by the board for the project.

Park in East Montana to bear the name of fallen soldier Ruben Estrella

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — When PFC Ruben Estrella's mother was told that the new park in Montana Vista would be named after her son, she said it was preordained.

"My son always said his name would one day be well known and he would be very popular," said Amalia Estrella. Her son was killed in the ambush of the 507th in the beginning of the Iraq war.

"He was never able to tell me why he would get such recognition, now I wish he would be here to see this park named after him," she said, sobbing softly. "But even if he doesn't ever see it, the park is going to be here for those who come back from the war alive to enjoy."

The PFC Ruben Estrella Jr. Park in Montana Vista will be inaugurated at 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11 with an unveiling and ribbon-cutting ceremony. Located on Greg Street near the community center, the new Ruben Estrella recreation complex is the first and only park in this community of 15,000.

Commissioner Miguel Terán, who initiated the project, said he is keeping a promise he made last year that there would be a park in honor of the brave young man who died in battle. He also is honoring a request by LULAC that wanted to honor Ruben Estrella by naming Greg Street after the young soldier. Only the neighbors in that street did not accept the name change.

"Last November, during our annual Veteran's Day celebration in San Elizario, we honored Estrella with a plaque at the Plazita in San Elizario," Teran said. "At that time, I promised his parents and the Montana Vista community that there would be a park named Ruben Estrella by the same time this year and that this same plaque would be placed in that park. We're keeping that promise, although we're a little bit ahead of ourselves in the time frame."

The Ruben Estrella Park is built on five acres of a 20-acre parcel donated to El Paso County through the Montana Vista Betterment Association by the Texas and Pacific Railroad Land Trust, said Robert Rivera, the County's Road and Bridge director, in charge of the park's construction. It is the first phase in a plan to develop the whole area into a regional park and sports complex.

The park now consists of a playground area, skateboard ramps, a basketball court walking trail and five picnic shelters with tables, benches and grills, Rivera said, adding that \$200,000 in bond money has already been invested in the project. When finished, the park also will have lights and some landscaping. Plans for the other 15 acres include baseball and soccer fields, plus more picnic shelters, playground equipment and more.

Amalia Estrella said naming the park after he son was a wonderful idea. The park is being used even now, before it's finished. Her daughter goes there to walk every day.

See PARK, Page 10



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Flesh and blood

They are yours but they're not. Blood of your blood, bone of your bone, once removed. They are your grandkids.

I never thought about being a grandparent much until it happened to me. Then I was surprised by my personal sense of pride, how much I liked that sense of accomplishment and continuity. That's why the human race keeps perpetuating itself — it's a pride sort of thing, a belief that we are somehow extending ourselves beyond our own lifetime.

Then the darling little extension starts talking and bursts that pride bubble in a hurry. You quickly realize that your grandkids are evaluating you with eyes that are not filtered with the same warm fuzzies you have felt for them since they first snuggled in the crook of your arm.

They are looking at you as a person.

There's a bumper sticker out there that says if we had known what fun grandkids were we'd have had them first. In a way that's true — I don't know if it is age or the fact that somebody else has to get up in the middle of the night to tend the wailing youngster, but there seems to be more fun and less stress associated with grandkids.

I became a grandmother for the third time this summer. They are all boys. It never gets old. Every time is new and different and wonderful, just like the birth of their parent was from the other children I was blessed with.

This last grandboy, Caden Thomas, was born big — only one ounce shy of 10 pounds — to a mama whose tiny physical size is far overshadowed by her strength and character. He is the second son of my son, a sweet, calm, friendly sort of baby. I look forward to getting to know him.

Meanwhile, the other two are talking, and I'm constantly amazed, tickled and astonished by what comes out of their mouths. The oldest, now six, told me not too long ago that I was crazy — a diagnosis based solely on my facial expressions as I threw him the ball. I always let him take pictures with my camera and later he announces that he is the one who took all the pictures in which he does not appear.

He says things like "there is a three-to-one ratio of boys to girls in my class," or announces that the reason he's strong enough to help me move a really heavy coffee table is because he "works out."

Meanwhile, my second grandboy, now three, has learned that I don't share his infatuation with a huge rubber spider — even if "it is just a toy, Granny" — and that I don't have a proper appreciation when he brings me a half-dead June bug and wants me to look at it's eyes because "they are so cute." I think he got the message after he saw me kill a tarantula on the back porch with the broom.

Sometimes he eyes me speculatively as to how well I might do in a wrestling match, then invites me to "take your glasses off." I really get a kick out of anticipating the day, when he becomes a strutting teenage boy, I can remind him that he once found it a challenge to wrestle with a gray-haired old lady.

I guess the wonderful thing about grandchildren is that you can share the kind of love that flows from blood relation without the pressure to "make them turn out right." My role will always be a supporting one, without the glare of the spotlight in choosing their schools, making sure they learn to read and brush their teeth, drive a car or balance a checkbook.

MARGULIES
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In this brave new world of ours in which the family circle is almost certain to be broken and our seeds scattered to the winds, I ache for people who don't have opportunity to know their grandkids as individuals, to enjoy the process and experience that shapes their personalities, and, if we are lucky and wise, have a positive impact in that process.

I spent a lot less time than I wanted this summer holding my new grandboy, but I had enough time to wonder in the miracle that he is and imagine the person he will become.

If experience is any indicator, I'm going to like this grandboy a great deal, too.

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

31 YEARS OF PUBLICATION

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

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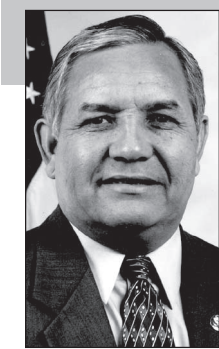
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Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes



Not much to celebrate this Labor Day

Here in El Paso County and across the country, workers are looking forward to celebrating Labor Day as a needed day away from their jobs. However, El Paso's current unemployment rate of 7.8 percent reflects that far too many El Pasoans will not enjoy this national holiday this year. While we've improved from June's unemployment rate of 8.2 percent, the current national unemployment rate of 5.5 percent indicates that our community is still very much in need of good-paying, quality jobs.

In Congress, I am working to bring increased jobs and job training opportunities to El Paso. We are currently working on legislation to fund the Department of Labor next year, which includes funding for the Dislocated Worker Program, a federal program that provides placement and training services for those who are unemployed through mass layoffs or plant closings. Due to shifts in unemployment trends as a result of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) of 1994, many adults in El Paso benefit from this training.

Project ARRIBA (Advanced Retraining and Redevelopment Initiative in Border Areas) here in El Paso is another valuable asset for our workforce. Project ARRIBA provides high-skill, high-wage job training in critical fields such as health care and computer science. It has proven to be extremely successful here in El Paso, not only for its graduates, but for the community as a whole, as graduates are filling much-needed positions in our local hospitals and businesses. To help Project ARRIBA reach its goal of serving over 300 individuals each year, I am fighting to secure federal funding for the program.

I am also working to improve El Paso's job opportunities through legislation I introduced in Congress to create an Adult Job Corps. This program would teach adults the technical and professional skills they need to secure long-term employment. It would be based on the highly successful federal Job Corps, a holistic career development program for at-risk young people. Here in El Paso, the award-winning David L. Carrasco Job Corps Center has opened the door to opportunity for young students for over 20 years. It is my hope that an Adult Job Corps would open the door to opportunity for adults in El Paso and across the country.

El Paso businesses and organizations are working hard to keep people employed and I am fighting to provide federal funding for job training programs and develop the sound economic policy needed for a strong economy. Together, through hard work, we will make next year's Labor Day something to celebrate.



As a retired educator, with more than four decades to tell you way with the of financing relative session, od would be a or many years or Texas' pov- stricts — most county of El Hood funding the person for ke the legend- k money from d dispersed it hat were poor. their own, are large sums of children who most. xas Gov. Rick n't realize, or vledge, that by od, more than children will be

left far behind.

There is no problem with our Robin Hood system we just need to fine tune it. Some Texas political leaders want to do away with Robin Hood, but they don't have any idea of how to replace it. The ideas are coming fast and furious, but none of them have proved to be a worthy and equitable system of finance and that's the key word — equitable.

Recently, I met with various area school superintendents and asked: What will happen to poor school districts in Texas if the Robin Hood System is abolished? The Tornillo ISD will end up losing about \$4.5 million in state funding and, according to the superintendent, would have to shut its doors.

In addition, school districts may have to depend solely on hiking up school property taxes to meet financial loss.

Eliminating Robin Hood is evil — make no mistake about that. Yet, some politicians don't seem to be bothered by its demise. They are playing politics with our children's future. Our children must come first, at all costs. Border communities must

do everything possible to prevent the elimination of Robin Hood — we must all unite.

We must ensure an excellent future for *all* our children, not just for those who can afford it, and a solid education is of the utmost importance, or else they will continue to fall through the societal cracks even more than they already have.

I encourage you to begin voicing your opinion regarding the elimination of Robin Hood, to contact other state elected officials, and cast your vote on Nov. 2 as a reflection for a strong and equal education in Texas. I remain your friend and public servant, Chente for la gente

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of experience, I'm here to tell you about efforts to do away with the Robin Hood system of financing Texas public schools.

In the near 79th legislative session eliminating Robin Hood would be a real travesty, because for many years it has meant salvation for Texas' poverty-stricken school districts — most of them located in the county of El Paso.

In essence, Robin Hood funding did the same thing as the person for whom it was named. Like the legendary Robin Hood, it took money from rich school districts and dispersed it to those communities that were poor. These communities, on their own, are not able to generate large sums of money to educate the children who need an education the most.

The problem with Texas Gov. Rick Perry is that he doesn't realize, or doesn't want to acknowledge, that by eliminating Robin Hood, more than 98 percent of Texas' children will be

left far behind.

There is no problem with our Robin Hood system we just need to fine tune it. Some Texas political leaders want to do away with Robin Hood, but they don't have any idea of how to replace it. The ideas are coming fast and furious, but none of them have proved to be a worthy and equitable system of finance and that's the key word — equitable.

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million Hispanic veterans in the United States. There is no greater example of the love Hispanics have for America than the 38 Congressional Medals of Honor that have been awarded to Hispanic Americans. These achievements and sacrifices are an integral part of the rich mosaic that makes up America.

Today, Hispanics are the fastest growing



By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

population group in America, totaling almost 30 million across the nation. By the year 2010, Hispanics will be the largest and youngest minority group in the United States. We should be optimistic about the tremendous potential the future holds for us.

Hispanics historically have placed emphasis on the value and importance of solid education. It is part of our culture. In order to remain competitive, Hispanic parents realize that education is the key to success. That's why many parents make tremendous sacrifices to provide their children with the best education possible. We must continue to strive to teach our children so they will be prepared to lead our great nation in the next century.

As Americans, in order to move forward on the right path, we should look back and take stock of our rich and varied past. By knowing where we have come from, we will be better prepared for our common destiny. That is why I am proud to celebrate the influential role Hispanics have played and will continue to play in the growth of the United States of America. *Adelante!*

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TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, Sept. 1, 1925: The Texas legislature creates our first game preserve ...26,000 acres in Taylor County near Abilene.



2004 PROPERTY TAX RATES

Town of Clint

Small Taxing Unit Notice

The **Town of Clint** will hold a meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 7, 2004 at the Clint Community Center, 200 N. San Elizario Rd. to consider adopting a proposed tax rate for tax year 2004. The proposed tax rate is \$0.39803 per \$100 of value.

The proposed tax rate would increase total taxes in the Town of Clint by 6%.

WTCC: 09/02/04

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from reaching hurricane victims...

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City of Socorro PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 4:30 p.m. during a Special City Council Meeting on Monday, September 13, 2004 at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding:

- 1) An ordinance adopting a budget for the Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2004 and ending on September 30, 2005 for the City of Socorro, Texas.
- 2) An ordinance authorizing the Assessment and Collection of Property Taxes within the City of Socorro ,Texas; and further, authorizing the City of El Paso Tax Office to perform the actual assessment and collection of said property taxes on behalf of the City of Socorro, Texas for the Fiscal Year of October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005.

Those that are unable to attend the public hearing may submit their views to the City of Socorro. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; handicapped persons in need of special assistance for attending the hearings are encouraged to contact the City Secretary (915) 858-2915, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. Ordinances are too extensive to print. Copies of ordinances are available for review at City Hall upon request.

Mark Threadgill
City Clerk

WTCC: 09/02/04

Write stuff

Dear Editor:

I believe the election of 2004 will be a defining moment in American history. I believe, as Christians, we have a moral obligation to be well informed and vote for the people who hold the same beliefs and values that we do.

It will also be a defining moment for our culture and our way of life. If you enjoy the freedoms we have, if you believe that there really are right and wrong, good and evil, you owe it to yourself, your children and your neighbors to do the right thing and vote for the person who best represents your core beliefs.

I believe President George W. Bush is that person and that he does the right things for the right reasons. He will continue to lead our great nation as a shining example for the whole world.

Meredith Kelley
El Paso

Dear Editor:

Upon reading your article on Socorro City Rep. Chito Bowling's resignation, I have a few comments to make. First of all, I think Mr. Bowling deserves an academy award for his superb acting, coming off as the hero who steps down out of disgust.

Shall I remind the public to go back into the city council's history and look at Mr. Bowling's track record? He, himself, has done absolutely nothing for the community, along with Reps. (Gary) Gandara, (Gloria) Rodriguez and (Joe) Ramirez. He has had a "can't beat them, so join them" attitude. His statement to the public is nothing but public jargon.

Let's face it, the heat in the kitchen

was getting too hot, and he chose to gracefully bow out. His resignation speech has done nothing but ride the coat tails of what Mayor (Irma) Sanchez has been doing these past years. It is she that my family has consistently seen on the news and the cable network, promoting and fighting for Socorro. She has been seen in action on the Metropolitan (Planning) Board, Commissioners Court, etc. She has been the only consistent figure that has been working for the people while having to conduct business at what we call the "City Day Care Center" rather than city hall.

She has had to deal with the immature, misinformed, selfish, malicious council at the same time. Where does Mr. Bowling come off as the sacrificial lamb? He's been part of the problem all along.

My final question is, who is going to be next to resign? Gandara? Ramirez? Rodriguez? Wake up, Socorro, read between the lines.

I smell a rat.

Ana Leigh Romero
Socorro

Dear Editor:

Ed Archuleta of El Paso Water Utilities is planning for building an arsenic removal plan in El Paso. They obtain some of their water from the ground. Their soil has a lot of arsenic in it.

Horizon City is not planning anything and they get most of their water from the ground.

Horizon City mixes low quality water with RO water to obtain a mixture that barely meets both the federal and state standards for water. When testing is done once a year, it is possible that a lot of water with a

high arsenic count can be processed.

For those on coumadine, primarily senior citizens, when the arsenic level in this water is too high, it will cause internal bleeding. When too low, their blood may clot, with the possibility of a stroke.

This water should be checked every month. Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District never talks about the drop in water levels in the ground. They never mention the problem that arsenic may cause. They will not allow the voters to vote on a replacement for a director that quit.

We should stop building houses until we can be assured of a long term source of water without a lot of impurities in it.

Mark Connolly
Horizon City

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the ANRS and Rodeo Exes Association of Sul Ross State University, I would like to thank the many individuals and businesses for their support of the 2004 Summer Reunion. We are truly grateful for their support. The 2004 Reunion was a success and this will allow the Association to donate all proceeds from the Reunion toward scholarships. All scholarship money is deposited with the University and is divided equally between academic scholarships with the School of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and the rodeo program. The 2005 Reunion will be July 29, 30 and 31 in Alpine. For more information, visit <http://www.sulross.edu/pages/529.asp>.

Bill McAnally
Treasurer
ANRS and Rodeo Exes Assoc.

MIKE PRICE'S HOME DEBUT

SATURDAY VS. WEBER ST.
7:05p.m. @ SUN BOWL

1ST 20,000 FANS
RECEIVE NOISEMAKERS

S P O N S O R S :



SEASON TICKETS
747-6150

Canutillo ISD hosts ribbon-cutting ceremonies

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

UPPER VALLEY — Canutillo ISD Board of Trustees, administrators, teachers, parents, and students came together last week to officially open the new classroom wings added to three campuses — Bill Childress Elementary, Jose H. Damian Elementary, and Canutillo Middle School.

Ribbon-cutting ceremonies were held at each campus on different weekdays, and the new facilities were open for viewing during the evening events.

Construction of the ten classroom wings is part of the bond issuance approved by voters in 2003 to enhance district facilities and relieve overcrowding at the three campuses. Total cost for the three projects was \$2.4 million including design and construction.

Joe Villarreal, Canutillo ISD school board president, said that the board is pleased with the work done by the architect Sergio Martinez, of

Dimensions Architects, and the construction manager David Venegas, of VEMAC Construction. Coordinating the projects for the district was Yusuf Farran, CISD construction ad-

ministrator. “We are very happy that these projects were completed in a timely manner and within budget,” said Villarreal.



A LITTLE ELBOW ROOM — Canutillo ISD held ribbon-cutting ceremonies for new classroom additions. Shown in photo is the ribbon cutting at Damian ES by, from left, Charley Hecker, board member; Jose H. Damian, former board member; Frank Lerma, board secretary; Gonzalo (Chalo) Garcia, former board member; Charles Hart, superintendent; Joe Villarreal, board president; Yvonne Sanchez, board member; Sergio Coronado, board member; Max Padilla, Damian ES principal; Steve Archuleta, Damian ES assistant principal; Carl Fietze, board vice president.

Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2004 on September 23, 2004, 6:00 pm, at 1539 Pawling Dr., Horizon City, Texas 79928. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal:	Ken Osmond, Bonnie Moorhouse, Lillard Thompson and Florence Thomas	
AGAINST the proposal:	NONE	
PRESENT and not voting:	NONE	
ABSENT:	John Navidomskis	

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.468693/\$100	0.468693/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.00/\$100
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)		0.00%
Average appraised value	\$ 71,176	\$ 77,548
General exemptions available	0.00	0.00
(excluding senior citizen's or disabled persons exemptions)		
Average taxable value	\$ 71,176	\$ 77,548
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 333.60	\$ 363.46
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		\$29.87
and percentage of increase (+/-)		8.95%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Anthony Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

Anthony ISD will hold a public hearing at 6:30 PM, Wednesday, September 15, 2004, in the Board Room located in the Anthony Middle School, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony Texas.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Anthony Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 09/02/04 & 09/09/04

Notice of Public Meeting to Discuss Clint Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

Clint Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 5:30 PM, Wednesday, September 15, 2004, in the Board Room, in the Clint Central Administration Office, 14521 Horizon Blvd., El Paso, Texas 79928.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Clint Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 09/02/04 & 09/09/04

Public Notice City of Socorro

Balance Budget Recap for FYE 09/30/2005

1. Revenues	\$8,656,477
General Fund	
2. Administration	1,274,005
3. Public Works	590,052
4. Police	1,203,907
5. Court	422,758
6. Planning and Zoning	311,234
7. Health	188,388
8. Special Projects (M&O)	186,516
9. Rio Vista Community Center	49,147
10. Human Resources	84,646
Sub-total General Fund	\$ 4,310,653
Debt Service Fund	
11. Debt Service	504,435
12. Interest	298
Sub-total Debt Service	\$ 504,733
Other Funds	
13. Grants	2,184,883
14. Hotel Tax-Tourism	45,208
15. Interest Earned	35,000
16. Parks-Reserve	83,000
17. Court-Reserve	43,000
Sub-total Other Funds	\$ 2,391,091
Allocations	
18. Court, Planning, Museum - 2001 Series	200,000
19. Street - 2004 Series	1,250,000
Sub-total Allocations	\$ 1,450,000
Total Expenses	\$ 8,656,477
Expenses Over Revenues	\$ -0-

A complete copy of the proposed City of Socorro, Texas FY 2004-2005 Budget is available for inspection at Socorro City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas 79927.

WTCC: 09/02/04

School nurse fills role of champion for good nutrition

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

SAN ELIZARIO — Laura Rodriguez, school nurse at Borrego Elementary in the San Elizario ISD, emphasizes change in the eating habits of children, more of whom are overweight and at greater risk for diabetes and heart problems. Rodriguez sees herself as a champion of change and will promote this

message as a panelist at the Governor’s Conference on Children’s Obesity in Texas that will be held Sept. 22 in Dallas. She is the only nurse statewide invited to participate in the one-day conference. Rodriguez estimates she’ll represent more than 1,000 El Paso area school nurses and thousands more statewide. Her 15-minute presentation at the conference will be “Nutrition on the Menu: The School Environment.” Her remarks will reflect what she re-

fers to as her “passion” for proper nutrition for children, a passion that has earned her the nickname of “Food Patrol.” With that, she reaches into her desk and pulls out a police-type badge case with a star affixed. She smiles as she holds up the badge; she is proud of it. “I took ownership of changing the ways we do things,” she says, adding that she is a “huge advocate” of change. • One of those ways was to liter-



— Photo By Phillip Cortez

STANDING UP FOR GOOD FOOD — School nurse Laura Rodriguez stands behind the healthy eating habits of her kids at Borrego Elementary in San Elizario. Pictured from left: Sarah Casado, Denise Araujo, and Chelsea Jurado.

ally “pull the plug” on vending machines on campus that dispensed the usual soft drink and a variety of packaged snacks. She felt the school was sending a mixed nutritional message. On the one hand, promoting wellness and proper nutrition, while at the same time allowing less-than-nutritious items to be purchased from the vending machines. Confronted by her adamant stand, she said vendors agreed to more appropriate and nutritious items to be sold. Now students can buy such items as fruit juices and trail mix. • Another way of advocating change is her “more aggressive” way of reaching out not only to students, but also to parents through education — with classes on nutrition, on diabetes and how to read labels on food packages. • Still another way is a cultural

approach, making food in the school cafeteria more appealing with familiar seasonings. She mentioned fruit sprinkled with chili powder. However, while pleased with the changes that have been made, she is not satisfied. “Change still needs to happen. This is just the beginning. Rules need to be enforced. We need more and more school nurses.” She says school nurses deal with more than cuts and bruises. She remembers that when she first began at Borrego six years ago, she was referred to, somewhat derisively, as a “band aid” nurse. That, too, is changing, she says. “We have to go out reach parents and children and get involved. We have a responsibility to get involved — to make changes,” she says. “I am very passionate about this.”

SISD sweeps video competition

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Socorro ISD made a clean sweep of the Project CARE video competition Aug. 21. Montwood High School students produced two public service announcements which won awards during the Communities Against Reckless Endangerment, or Project CARE competition. Out of 11 announcements submitted from area high schools, two of Montwood High School’s announcements — and a third from Americas High School — were selected for airing by MTV, VH1, Black Entertainment Television, Turner News Net-

work, E, Spike and Telemundo. Those were the only PSAs selected from all the entries. Gary Fugate is the media technology instructor at Americas. “All of the spots dealt with alcohol abuse, drug abuse or teenage pregnancy,” he says. “We also received a donation for our projects, and we’ve signed up to do more this year, including billboard ads.” Executive producer of the Montwood Ram Reels project is Crystle Lopez and the program is guided by media technology instructor Patricia Arellano. The Americas project was led by graduate Manuel Tarango.

A Trade Deal

...with Central American countries
that exploit child labor to steal jobs from
hard working Americans like you...

Is a bad deal for America.

Political Advertising Paid for by:
www.americansforfairtrade.org

Anthony Independent School District Public Notification of Nondiscrimination in Career and Technology Programs

- 1) The Anthony Independent School District offers career and technology education programs in:
- Business Professions;
 - Human Service Professions including culinary arts and cosmetology;
 - Commercial Arts Professions
 - Health Professions;
 - Industrial Professions including air conditioning and refrigeration, electronics, plumbing and metal trades;
 - Computer Professions including Macromedia certification, Microsoft Windows NT, microcomputer technician, and telecommunications and networking, and;
 - Automotive Professions including diesel mechanics and automotive technology.

Admission to these programs is based on appropriate age, grade, aptitude and ability.

2) It is the policy of Anthony Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its vocational programs, services, or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

3) It is the policy of Anthony Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or age in its employment practices as required by title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

4) Anthony Independent School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all career and technology programs.

5) For information about your rights or grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator/Section 504 Coordinator: Mr. Vernon L. Butler, (915) 886-6500, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821.

Notificacion Publica de no Discriminar en los Programas de Carrera y Tecnologia

- 1) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony ofrece programas de carrera y tecnología:
- Profesiones en negocios;
 - Profesiones en servicios humanos incluyendo artes culinarias and cosmetolgia;
 - Profesiones en arte comercial;
 - Profesiones en al salud;
 - Profesiones industriales incluyendo aire acondicioneado y refrigeración, electrónica, plomeria y oficio en el metal;
 - Profesiones de computación como certificacion de macromedia, Microsoft Windows NT, Técnico en micro-computación, telecomuncaciones, y red de radiodifusión, y;
 - Profesiones automotrices incluyendo mecánica diesel y tecnologia automotriz.

Para admisión a éstos programas se basa en edad apropiada, grado, aptitud y habilidad.

2) Es norma del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony no discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, ó impedimento, en sus programas, servicios, ó actividades vocacionales, tal como lo requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

3) Es norma del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony no discriminar por motivos raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, impedimento ó edad en sus procedimientos de empleo, tal como requieren el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, según enmienda; Título IX de las Enmiendas Educativas de 1972, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975, según enmienda; y la Sección 504 de la Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, según enmienda.

4) El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony tomará las medidas necesarias para asegurar que la falta de habilidad en el uso de la lengua inglés no sea obstáculo para la admisión y participación en todos los programas carrera y tecnologia.

5) Para más información sobre sus derechos ó procedimientos para quejas, comuniquese con el Coordinadora del Título IX/Coordinador de la Sección 504, Mr. Vernon L. Butler, (915) 886-6500, en 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821.

Physician roulette: Come on like thunder to prevent medical blunder

By Albert M. Balesh, M.D.

Pain and dread of the unknown are terrible things. When “an ounce of prevention” cedes the day to “a pound of cure,” we’d just as soon sell our souls to the devil as make a mortal choice. We pick up the Yellow Pages and pray to The Almighty that the healer we choose has his or her proverbial cards in order. “Physician roulette” is the name of the game, and let the buyer beware; one false move spells no tomorrow.

With 196,000 people dying each year in hospitals from medical errors, careful scrutiny of the diplomas on a wall is just a first step. Common medical errors run the gamut from adverse drug reactions and dispensing blunders, to dirty hands, medical equipment, and catheters, serving as foci of infection. And let’s not forget wrong-site surgery either.

The statistics are absolutely mind-boggling. According to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the University of Michigan School of Medicine, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (J.C.A.H.C.), and the Institute of Medicine: 1) each year 1.3 million people are injured by medication errors ranging from adverse drug reactions to dispensing blunders, and at least 7,000 patients die; 2) 200,000 people are infected by intravascular catheters each year, nearly the same number suffer uri-

nary tract infections from urinary catheters, and, to make matters worse, doctors are unaware that a urinary catheter is in place 40 percent of the time; 3) two million people each year come down with hospital-acquired infections; and 4) since 1996, there have been 150 reports of surgeries being performed on the wrong limb or organ.

So, what can we, the general public, do to prevent our becoming casualties of this war or, at the least, statistics in some remote medical journal? There are precautions we can take to help prevent some of the more common medical problems, and I will list them here.

- Monitor your own care.
- Quiz doctors and nurses closely, even in high-pressure situations like the operating room.
- Clarify physician handwriting, dosage, and indications for all prescriptions. In other words, read the prescription back to your doctor and ask what it’s for.
- During a hospital stay, ask every nurse or aide the name of the medicine he or she is giving you, and what it’s for.
- Be particularly careful and vigilant about medicines with similar names.
- Provide your physician with a list of all the medications you are currently taking, in order to avoid prescription of a new medication that

will interact adversely with another you’re already on.

- Ask everyone who might touch you to wash his or her hands, to avoid transmission of infection via hospital workers’ hands.
- Ask your doctor if it’s absolutely necessary to insert a urinary catheter. If the answer is yes, ask when it can be taken out. Also, ask for an anti-septic-coated catheter, and, if insertion is protracted beyond two days, make sure the catheter is made of silver alloy.
- Make sure you and your surgeon are on the same wavelength. Discuss what steps are being taken to identify the right site for the procedure. Once you’re in the operating room, confirm that everyone on the surgical team knows what procedure has been scheduled and the right site for the procedure.

Rules, guidelines, directives, and shopping lists, like those listed above, are difficult to adhere to in the real world. That’s why the Senate recently passed legislation that would create a voluntary and confidential reporting system for medical errors. Healthy vigilance during clear sailing will help us circumnavigate our years, mindful of, but not intimidated by, possible medical storm clouds ahead.

(2004, Albert M. Balesh, M.D. All rights reserved.)

Anthony Independent School District 2004-2005 Meal Policy

The Anthony Independent School District serves breakfast and lunch every school day. All children in the District will receive a reimbursable meal at no charge through the academic year of 2004-2005. All children will receive a free breakfast and a free lunch regardless of income. In the operation of the child feeding program no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, age or national origin.

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony Regla de Alimentos Año 2004-2005

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony ofrece desayuno y comida todos los días escolares. A todos los estudiantes del distrito se les servirán alimentos a ningún costo durante el año académico de 2004-2005. Todo estudiante recibirá almuerzo y comida gratis no tomando en cuenta ingresos. En el funcionamiento del programa de alimentación ningún niño ó estudiante será discriminando contra su raza, color, religión, sexo, incapacidad, edad o origen nacional.

WTCC: 09/02/04

Briefs

From Page 1

attend the dance afterward in the school cafeteria from 9 p.m. to 12 p.m. For tickets and more information call 851-2344.

■ The Oz Glaze Senior Center in Horizon City will host a spaghetti dinner on Sept. 11 from 4 to 7 p.m. The tickets are \$4.50 for adults and children. Call 852-2592 or 852-1707 for more information.

■ Loans to individual rural youths involved in 4H, FFA or similar organizations are being offered by the Farm Service Agency, a division of the USDA. The loans can be used to establish and operate an income-producing project of modest size by young people ages 10 to 20 who live in a town of less than 10,000 population. For information contact William H. McAnally at (432) 336-5206, ext. 2.

■ Students at Loma Verde Elementary School, 12150 Ted Houghton will celebrate “Spirit of American Enterprise Day” Sept. 3. The event is being planned in partnership with Starbucks Coffee, and will feature reading events, science demonstrations and literacy exercises using Starbucks’ equipment and research. The program, scheduled for 7:15 to 11:30 a.m. provides activities for second, third, fourth and fifth grade students. Third-graders will learn about water filtration; fourth graders will plant water-conserving shrubs and trees on the school’s playground while fourth graders will write essays about the making of coffee. Fifth

grade students will create a marketing project. Loma Verde students will also welcome the students’ grandparents to the pre-K-5th grade campus 8-10 a.m. Sept. 3. Grandparents will be treated to a continental breakfast and a gift, and later will go to their grandchild’s classroom to hear readings by the students or to be interviewed by their grandchildren. For more information, call Anna Fuentes, 937-8600.

■ To educate older adults about prescription medication misuse and how to avoid it, the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services’ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the FDA have launched an information campaign entitled *As You Age: A Guide to Aging, Medicines and Alcohol*. It addresses the inherent dangers of prescription medication and alcohol misuse due to changes in a person’s body as it ages. Call 1-800-662-HELP to obtain a copy.

■ Texas will be among the states participating in the *You Drink and Drive, You Lose* national crackdown on the criminal offense of impaired driving from Aug. 27 to Sept. 12. About 47 percent of the state’s crash fatalities in 2002 were alcohol related. He added that in 2000, these crashes resulted in about \$50.9 billion in economic costs to the nation, a cost borne primarily by those not directly involved, such as insurance premiums, taxes and travel delays. “Impaired driving is a preventable crime. It’s time to stop the killing,” said Regional Administrator Georgia S. Chakiris of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Visit www.stopimpaireddriving.org/ for more information.

Anthony Independent School District SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Anthony Independent School District provides the following educational program/services to identified children with disabilities who reside within the district beginning on the third birthday through age twenty-one.

Instructional Program: including Early Childhood (beginning on the third birthday through age five), Resource (grades K-12) and Self-Contained (grades K-12); 2) Diagnostic Services; 3) Transportation Services; 4) Speech Therapy; 5) Counseling Services; 6) Adaptive Equipment Services; 7) Physical Therapy; 8) Occupational Therapy; 9) School Health Services; and 10) Homebound Services

Services are provided to identified auditorial and visually impaired children who reside within the district from birth through age twenty-one.

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and Public Law 105-17, parents and adult students have the right to inspect educational records. District policies FL and FL-E provide for record access, confidentiality, and complaint procedures.

If you would like more information or know of a child with disabilities who is not receiving educational services, please contact: Rick McCarty, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821, (915) 886-6570.

El Distrito Escolar de Anthony SERVICIOS DE EDUCACION ESPECIAL

El distrito escolar de Anthony provee los siguientes programas/ servicios educacionales a niños que son identificados como desabilitados que viven dentro del distrito comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta los 21 años.

Programa de instrucción: infancia temprana (comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta la edad de cinco años), cuarto de recurso (K-12), y clases contenidas (K-12); 2) servicios diagnósticos; 3) servicios de transportación; 4) terapia de habla; 5) servicios de consejo; 6) servicios de equipaje adaptivo; 7) terapia física; 8) terapia ocupacional; 9) servicios de salud escolar; y 10) servicios de clases en el hogar

Se provee servicios a niños identificados como desabilitados audible y visualmente que viven dentro del distrito desde nacimiento hasta la edad de 21 años.

Conforme al Acto de Derechos y Confidencia Educacionales de Familia de 1974 y Ley Publica 105-17, padres y alumnos adultos tienen el derechos de ver los archivos educativos. Polizas FL y FL-E explican los derechos, la confidencialidad, y el proceso para quejarse.

Si usted desea mas información o sabe de un niño/niña desabilitado que vive en el distrito escolar de Anthony que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con: Rick McCarty, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821, (915) 886-6570.

WTCC: 09/02/04

Anthony Indepedent School District PUBLIC NOTICE / AVISO PUBLICO

Public Meeting to Review Federally Funded Programs Junta Pública para Examinar Programas de Fondos Federales

The Anthony Independent School District will conduct a public information meeting to review the following AISD Programs funded by Federal and State compensatory funds: *El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony llevará a cabo una junta pública para examinar los siguientes programas de AISD de fondos compensatorios estatales y federales:*

- Title I, Parts A and D - Professional Development and Neglected Delinquent Youth;
Título I, Partes A y D - Desarrollo Profesional y Juventud Delincuente y Desatendida
- Title II, Parts A and D - Supplemental Education Services;
Título II, Partes A y D - Servicios Educacionales Suplementarios;
- Title III, Part A and Title IV, Part A - Safe and Drug Free Schools;
Título III, Parte A y Título IV, Parte A - Escuelas Libres de Drogas y Seguras;
- Title V - Innovative Programs.
Título V - Programas Innovadores

The meeting will be held:
La junta se llevará a cabo:
Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2004 / *miercoles, 15 de septiembre 2004*
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Anthony ISD Boardroom
610 Sixth Street, Anthony, TX

For information call:
Por información comuníquese con:
Ann Geyer — 886-6567

Anthony Independent School District Public Notice Of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of the Anthony Independent School District to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or any person who has a disability in the admission or access to programs, delivery of services or employment.

The Anthony Independent School District is fully committed to meeting its responsibilities as specified by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; prohibiting sex discrimination, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Inquiries concerning your rights may be referred to Mr. Vernon L. Butler, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821, (915) 886-6500.

Notificacion Publica

Es la norma de conducta de el distrito escolar de Anthony prohibir la discriminación a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo o deshabilidad en la admisión o el acceso a programas, entrega de servicios o empleo.

El distrito escolar de Anthony esta comprometido a cumplir con las responsabilidades especificadas por el Título VI del Acta de Derechos Civiles de 1964, como enmendado, el Título IX de la Enmienda de Educación de 1972, como enmendado, que prohíbe la discriminación sexual, la Sección 504 del Acta de Rehabilitación de 1973, como enmendado, la Ley de Discriminación por Edad de 1975 como enmendado, y el Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidades.

Para información tocanta a sus derechos comuníquese con Mr. Vernon L. Butler, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas 79821, (915) 886-6500.

WTCC: 09/02/04

Montwood’s Arellano selected top teacher in Region 19

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Montwood High School Media Technology instructor Patricia Arellano was selected as the Region 19 Secondary Teacher of the Year during the region’s annual banquet Aug. 26 in the Camino Real Hotel ballroom.

“To the teachers, to all of you — this is ours, this is ours, this is not mine!” she said, holding the plaque. “It’s an honor to represent you, and all I can tell you is, ‘state — bring it!’”

Arellano — who switched from business to teaching five years ago — cried joyfully as she accepted the award from Dr. James Vasquez, Executive Director of Region 19 Education Service Center and banquet sponsor SBC Communications General Manager of External Affairs David Arbuckle. As she walked back to her seat, Arellano was congratulated by the crowd,

which included SISD Superintendent Dr. Robert J. Durón and his wife, Dr. Jodi Durón. Arellano’s son, Montwood freshman Adriel Jovan Arellano, was at his mother’s side when she returned from the stage. “You have no idea how proud I am of her. She’s amazing,” he said.

Arellano directs Montwood High School’s Media Tech project and is advisor to the Ram Reels Club. Her students have also produced award-winning public service announcements for Project



JOB WELL DONE — Socorro ISD Superintendent Dr. Robert J. Durón congratulates Region 19 Secondary Teacher of the Year Patricia Arellano from Montwood High School.

CARE, or Communities Against Reckless Endangerment.

Arellano will next compete at the state level for the title of Texas Teacher of The Year.

Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss Fabens Independent School District’s State Financial Accountability Rating

The Fabens Independent School District will hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 15, 2004 in the boardroom of the Fabens ISD Administration Building, 821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Fabens Independent School District’s rating on the state’s financial accountability system.

WTCC: 09/02/04

Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss San Elizario Independent School District’s State Financial Accountability Rating

The San Elizario Independent School District will hold a public hearing at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 8, 2004 in the boardroom of the San Elizaio ISD Administration Building, 1050 Chicken Ranch Road, San Elizario, Texas.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss San Elizario Independent School District’s rating on the state’s financial accountability system.

WTCC: 09/02/04

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but also export cheap labor...

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See CLINT ISD, Page 9

Water

From Page 1

Chente Quintanilla. “(But) just give us the materials and we’ll get the job done.”

Quintanilla was referring to the major role that community “sweat equity” played in the completion of the Burbridge Acres project. The Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA), headed by Robert “Sam” Tessen, funded the project by a \$101,236 Texas Community Development Program grant awarded to the Town of Clint. Tessen was on hand for the ceremony.

The project provides fire hydrants and first-time water to the subdivision. The hydrants, besides offering emergency access, should help lower home insurance costs.

Labor valued at more than \$24,000 was contributed by the community, including the manual labor of C-Battery 1st Battalion, 7th Air Defense, 108 Air Defense Artillery Brigade, also known as “Charlie 1-7.” Each member of this military unit was awarded a Congressional certificate of appreciation from Congressman Silvestre Reyes, who attended the ceremony, and from the Town of Clint.



Tury Duran

Thirty families in the subdivision qualified for grants while 25 others paid \$280 to access community water from the Lower Valley Water District (LVWD). Connection fees normally can run into thousands of dollars. The LVWD will officially accept the lines and install meters in mid-September. The next phase of this project, scheduled to begin in September, will benefit residents of the Eubank 1 and 2 subdivisions. Former Clint Mayor Charles Gonzalez and former LVWD General Manager Arturo “Tury” Duran were instrumental in making application for the funds in August of 2002. The \$101,236 award was approved in February of 2003 and planning began. Bids for materials went out in early July 2004 and construction began at the end of July.

The program provides funding options for equipment, expertise, and technical assistance to rural communities experiencing water and wastewater problems.



MEANINGFUL MEMENTO — Theresa Lujan accepted a plaque from Congressman Silvestre Reyes, along with a flag that flew over the nation’s capitol, in remembrance of a special day.

Clint ISD

From Page 8

improvements, the fund balance has been restored, and taxes are lower. What a great success story we have going right here in Clint ISD,” he said.

The district welcomed 8,883 students back to school during the first week of school. The student growth

rate of the district, especially in the Horizon area, is exceeding projections. Groundbreaking for the new Horizon Middle School was recently held.

The construction of the new school will be funded by the last of the money from the 2001 bond. However, the district is waiting on the outcome of the school finance issue in Texas and figures on the growth rate to determine if another bond issue is in the future for the district.



FAMILY AFFAIR — Texas Secretary of State Geoffrey Connor presents an etching of the State Capitol Building to Theresa Lujan and her son, center.



Dale Reinhardt



Sam Tessen



STANDING TALL — These members of the military unit Charlie 1-7 were among those who put their shoulders into the project and contributed sweat equity to make life better for their community.

Public Notice Fabens Independent School District

SECTION 504 SERVICES

The Fabens Independent School District provides the following educational services/options to identified disabled students who reside within the district.

- ◆ Child find activities to notify disabled students and their parents of the their rights and the district’s obligation to provide a free, appropriate public education.
- ◆ Referrals to Sections 504 when it is believed the students have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities and the students are in need of educational accommodations.
- ◆ Procedural safeguards under Section 504.
- ◆ Evaluations of students to determine eligibility for the Section 504 program.
- ◆ Placement into the Section 504 program, which means the student could receive:
 - ✓ individually planned modifications in the regular classroom,
 - ✓ transportation services to and from school,
 - ✓ health services from the school nurse,
 - ✓ accommodations regarding access to any part of the campus, or
 - ✓ assistance in reading for students with dyslexia in a reading program which meets the state’s standards for a dyslexia reading program.
- ◆ Special education services are available to Section 504 students, if the students qualify for one of the specific disabilities under special education.

If you would like more information to know of a disabled child who is not receiving educational services, please contact Charles Hopp, Section 504 Coordinator, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838, (915) 764-3138.

SERVICIOS DE LA SECCION 504

El distrito escolar independiente de Fabens provee los siguientes servicios/ opciones educacionales a los estudiantes con discapacidades identificados que residen dentro del distrito.

- ◆ *Actividades para encontrar a niños para notificar a los estudiantes con discapacidades y a sus padres de sus derechos y de las obligaciones del distrito a proporcionar una educación publica que sea gratuita y apropiada.*
- ◆ *Referimientos a la Sección 504 cuando se cree que el estudiante tiene una discapacidad mental o fisica que limita substancialmente una o mas actividades vitales importantes y los estudiantes necesitan modificaciones en su educación.*
- ◆ *Derechos legales garantizados bajo Sección 504.*
- ◆ *Evaluaciones de estudiantes para determinar si califican para el programa de la Sección 504.*
- ◆ *Colocación dentro del programa de la Sección 504, lo que significa que el estudiante puede recibir:*
 - ✓ *modificaciones en el salon de educación regular planeadas individualmente,*
 - ✓ *servicios de transporte para la escuela y para atras,*
 - ✓ *servicios de salud por la enfermera de la escuela,*
 - ✓ *cambios que garanticen el acceso a cualquier parte de la escuela,*
 - ✓ *ayuda en lectura para estudiantes con dislexia en un programa de lectura que cumpla con los requisitos que pide el estado a un programa de lectura de dislexia.*
- ◆ *Se ofrecen servicios de educación especial a los estudiantes Sección 504, si los estudiantes califican para una de las discapacidades especificas bajo educación especial.*

Si usted desea más información o conoce a niños con discapacidades que no estan recibiendo servicios educativos, por favor comuniquese con Charles Hopp, Coordinador de la Sección 504, P.O. Box 697/821 NE “G” Avenue, Fabens, TX 79838, (915) 764-3138.

El Paso high school football season shaping up to be a real nail-biter

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

That most wonderful time of year is finally here once again — it’s football season.

And one of the best ways to experience football is to experience high school football. These young men put it all on the line every week for one thing: pride.

These athletes don’t get shuttled to their games in expensive limos, they don’t do beer commercials with the twins, they don’t wear tons of expensive jewelry and most importantly, they don’t get paid a penny.

And without all these perks, they play the game with more passion and desire than any NFL athlete ever has because in the NFL — win or lose — you still get paid way more than you’re worth.

In high school football you experience all the glory when you win and suffer all the pain when you lose. And that’s it.

High school games are the same everywhere, but what makes this season even more special here in El Paso is the degree of improvement several local teams have undergone.

There are four teams, in particular, that can go very far this year. But before they get to

post-season play and have a chance at the rest of the state of Texas, they will battle through the regular season to earn the tag of “best team in the city of El Paso.”

These four teams did nothing to weaken their position atop the El Paso prep football standings last week. In fact, they probably set themselves even further apart from the rest.

The first of these four teams are the Montwood Rams.

Chuck Veliz, very quickly making a name for himself around the region, took over a 1-8 team three years ago and has quickly turned Montwood into a power. The Rams, led by the incomparable Edward Britton Jr., scored an impressive 49-28 victory over Plainview in week one. And this game was at Plainview.

Don’t El Paso teams usually regress into the fetal position sometime during the first quarter against out-of-town teams? I guess that *used* to be the case.

Britton rushed for 212 yards and scored two touchdowns against the strong Plainsmen. The Nebraska Cornhuskers, who have been the most aggressive college team in the Britton sweepstakes, must be salivating all over their corn.

Don’t be surprised if the Rams go undefeated until they meet our next team — the Franklin Cougars.

Franklin raised some eyebrows in their lopsided 42-20 win over Las Cruces High. This tremendous victory, also on the road, sent a message to everyone who might have thought the Cougars’ better days were behind them.

And the surprising hero of the win was quarterback Scott Grantham, who threw for 439 yards and five touchdowns.

Now, when I say surprising, I don’t mean we didn’t know Grantham was going to have a good season, but nobody envisioned over 400 yards and five scores against anyone — let alone New Mexico powerhouse Las Cruces High.

The game of the year could be that battle between Franklin and Montwood on Oct. 29.

The third team of the four may end up going the furthest in the state playoffs, the Andress Eagles.

Andress was among the best 5A teams in the area last year and they are among the best 5A teams in the area this year — only now they compete in the weaker Class 4A division.

The Eagles wiped out Hanks 49-7 in their season opener and show no signs of letting up.

Andress star running back Gerald Turner gained a modest 111 yards but only played a little more than half the game.

And the Eagles have another goal to reach

this season. Coach Allan Sepkowitz needs just four more wins to reach 200 for his career. He’ll be one of just 21 active Texas head coaches to reach that milestone.

The fourth team of the El Paso top four has probably been the most consistent over the last dozen years or so.

The Riverside Rangers just keep rolling along after their “work”manlike 42-12 victory over the Austin Panthers.

Tom Work has established himself as one of the most innovative and successful coaches in El Paso football history.

Riverside star tailback Tony Gonzalez rushed for 129 yards and scored two touchdowns against the Panthers, who have lost to the Rangers eight straight times.

The Rangers will definitely be the team to beat in District 2-4A.

So there they are, Montwood, Franklin, Andress and Riverside. Who is the best? Don’t have a clue. I do know this, though, and forgive the cliché... but any one of them can beat the other on any given day.

The fun thing is seeing how far each will represent the city at the end of the season. But before these guys get too much of a big head, they still have some work to take care of here in El Paso.

Sportspark lights up T-Ball fields for night play

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — “Turn on the lights,” yelled Ray Chavez, assistant director of Sportspark, and so they were for the first T-Ball games of the season.

A total of 56 high intensity lights were turned on for the first time Wednesday night in four T-Ball fields at the East Side complex. Never before had those fields been available to play at night, Chavez said. Now they are.

“The lights look beautiful, particularly with the lights in all the other fields turned off,” he said, explaining that the lights were part of the County’s project to improve all the baseball, T-Ball and softball fields at the park. The project, which was funded through \$375,000 in bond money, also includes an additional 40 lights in a baseball field and upgrades to 144 lights in other already lighted fields.

Commissioner Charles Scruggs, who was instrumental in getting the County to purchase Sportspark, described the new lights as one more step in converting the park into a premier athletic facility for amateur tournaments in the Southwest. There’s no doubt, he said, that lighted fields will attract more tournaments to El Paso.

“But that’s not the only reason I’ve fought for all these improvements to the park,” he said. “Without lights in the T-Ball fields, the little kids could not play in the evening. With the lights we can expand the T-Ball program, encouraging more parents to come out and watch the game, when the weather is cooler. The evenings are now beautiful. They can come out and watch the sunsets.”

Chavez said registration is now open for the fall season teams. There are now 70 youth teams registered in

T-Ball and baseball, with players ranging in age from four years old to 14. In the adult section, 112 softball teams have been registered, with the games starting this Sunday. Eight co-ed teams are now signed up for adult volleyball.

“The lights make a big difference,” Chavez said. “Sportspark already has a lot of potential, but with the lights that potential has been doubled. The park easily now can accommodate regional tournaments of 200 teams. When limited to an age group, it can even accommodate a youth world series.”

Before joining Sportspark earlier this year, Chavez was director of community centers in Kansas City, Missouri. Prior to that he was with the Kansas City Royals baseball team. So he knows the game and its potential. He decided on El Paso because he is a University of Texas at

El Paso graduate, and it was here he met his wife and married her. He also has family here.

“I always wanted to come back to El Paso,” he said. “I love it here.”

Commissioner Betti Flores, who oversees El Paso County parks, praises Ray for all the improvements he’s made to Sportspark. He has brought order and organization, and now he’s turned on the lights, she said.

“Sportspark is a wonderful place for children, youths and adults to play together,” Flores said. “This is one way to keep children off the streets. But we need more parks like this one, and we need for them to be well maintained. We have been doing our best to keep up the County’s parks, including this one and Ascarate, which is also looking beautiful now.”

For information on Sportspark, call 857-7676.

Park

From Page 1

“I don’t have any words to express my appreciation to the many people who have helped keep the memory of my son alive, and for all the support they have given me and my family,” Estrella said. “I’m very proud of my son, but it’s a pride filled with a lot pain. It’s been more than a year since his death, and I don’t know how to live with so much pain. I just can’t believe he’s gone. I still wait for him.”

The Grupo Principe, who recorded the Corrido de Ruben Estrella, will perform at the dedication. The Corrido was written by Cruz Aranda, a poet from San Elizario, last year for the first unveiling of the young hero’s plaque. It was done at the request of LULAC and in dedication to the young man.

King Super Crossword

HORSE SCENTS ACROSS

1 Stromboli spew

5 "Waterloo" rockers

9 Envelops

14 Gaiters

19 Mideastern muck-a-muck

20 Spooky Stoker

21 Disprove

22 Let

23 General Bradley

24 Rustic tower

25 Start of a remark

by 126 Across

27 Athenian sage

29 Indian sectarian

31 Airport abbr.

32 Good-sized

33 Author Jessamyn

35 With 81 Down, '44 chemistry Nobel

39 Hatch's home

41 Part 2 of remark

47 TV's "The Love _"

50 Santa __, CA

51 "Oh, woe!"

52 TV exec Arledge

53 Citified

55 Like a dachshund

58 Cozy cloth

60 Marten

61 _ bear

62 Asian holiday

63 Skilled

66 Scottsboro's st.

67 Rubberneck

70 Morlocks' prey

73 Mexican Mrs.

74 Point

75 Part 3 of remark

81 Crone

82 R-V hookup

83 Head for the clouds

84 Actress Purviance

85 Khan opener?

86 ER exclamation

87 Minify a midi, maybe?

89 Top-drawer

93 Feeling

95 Like a gymnast

99 5 Across' home

100 Michael of "Dynasty"

101 Schell or Shriver

102 European capital

104 Foster's "_ Dog Tray"

105 Half-baked?

106 End of remark

110 McGregor of "Trainspotting"

112 Creme _ creme

113 Birthday cake?

114 _ League

117 Fond du __, WI

119 Metric measure

122 Pulsate

126 Speaker of remark

131 Writer Rendell

133 Autumn implement

134 Boredom

135 Draw forth

136 Exercise aftermath

137 Brute

138 Prepares cherries

139 Hazardous gas

140 _ tetra

141 Tide type

DOWN

1 Composer Janacek

2 Bullets, briefly

3 Lab vessel

4 Cupid's missiles

5 Pecs' partners

6 "The _ Stomp" ('61 hit)

7 Part of Indonesia

8 Out of control

9 Twisted

10 Rock's _

Speedwagon

11 _ Dhabi

12 Purple hue

13 Lawyer's concern

14 Bando of baseball

15 Excess

16 Jai _

17 Haynes or Rundgren

18 Fluctuate

26 "Unforgettable" name

28 Born

30 Torrid

34 Corset part

36 Aquatic bird

37 '82 Jeff Bridges film

38 Hautboy

40 Liplash?

41 Door hardware

42 In the know

43 Julia of "Havana"

44 Float

45 In the arms of Morpheus

46 Loosen the ropes

48 Conductor Claudio

49 Fat stuff

54 Shipshape

56 Unfashionable eyewear?

57 Wild child

59 Reference volume

64 Soft cheese

65 Arrive at Kennedy

68 "Yo!" at the library

69 Singer James

71 Lennon's lady

72 "My Own Private _" ('91 film)

75 Endangered feline

76 Kampala's country

77 Sheriff's quarry

78 Aftershock

79 Had no doubts

80 Patriot Nathan

81 See 35 Across

86 Creature for taming?

88 Kid's creation?

90 Matinee _

91 Reveal

92 They may be split

94 It's all in your head

96 Angered

97 Location

98 Comic Mort

99 Mediocre

101 Superintendent

103 Basutoland, today

107 Acorn, eventually

108 Welcome item?

109 "Silkwood" screenwriter

111 Flagon filler

114 Very long time

115 Flat rate

116 Excellent

118 Musical finale

120 Where to speak Farsi

121 Last name in publishing

123 Frenzy

124 Creole veggie

125 Freeway sound

127 "Platoon" extras

128 "Father Knows Best" kid

129 Author Umberto

130 Actor Cariou

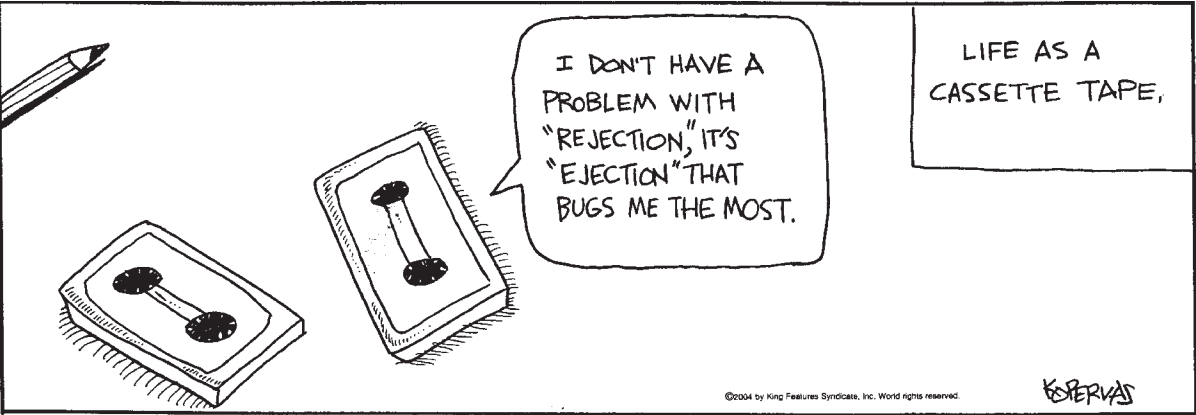
132 Lady lobster

Answer Page 3

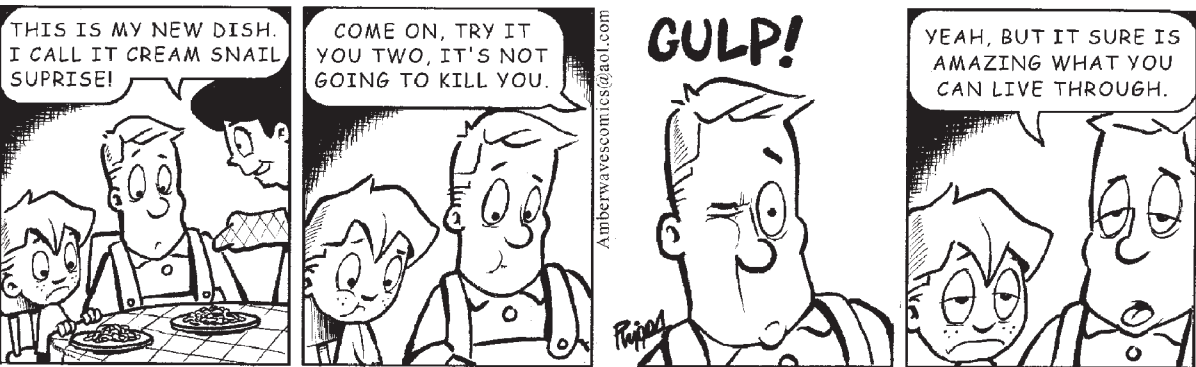
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Comix

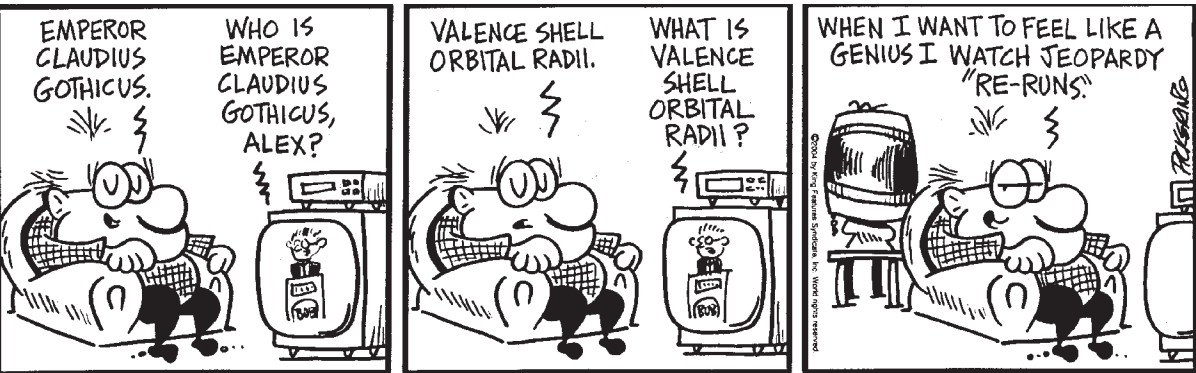
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Cuddlers threaten New York's image

By Don Flood

While I never actually watched “Sex and the City,” my impression was that it depicted New York City as a modern-day Sodom and Gomorrah, albeit with a broader selection of women’s footwear.

A recent report, however, questions whether this carefully cultivated image is, in fact, a fraud.

According to a shocking expose on CNN.com, the latest craze for singles in New York is “cuddle parties,” gatherings where people wear pajamas and cuddle with strangers!

And unlike the characters of “Sex and the City,” that’s all they do.

(Warning: The following section is extremely disturbing and should not be read by children under the age of 37, those from the Midwest and Attorney General John Ashcroft.)

Here’s how it works, according to a verbatim account from CNN: “An introduction to cuddling ensues, first by hugging three people. People then get in a circle on their hands and knees, rub shoulders and *moo like cows.*” (My italics.)

“After a bit of swaying, *everyone falls to their side*, which puts them into an easy cuddling position.” (My italics again.)

But it’s the very next sentence that really blows me away:

“Cuddle parties are intended for *people who are emotionally sound.*” (My italics are way out of control.)

Well, yes, of course. If I was at a party in my pajamas, down on all fours, swaying and mooing like a cow, the *last* thing I’d want is some guy next to me who was emotionally unsound.

Hey, m-o-o-o-o-ve it, buddy — only emotionally secure cows at

this party.

And what was happened to our young people?

Here they are living in Sin City, the City That Never Sleeps, a 24/7 cesspool of no-holds-barred depravity and *they’re going to slumber parties.* With strangers!

One guy said the parties help him express his feelings. “I have a problem showing emotion,” he said.

Don’t sell yourself short, pal. You’re wearing your jammies and mooing in front of a roomful of strangers. It’s not everyone who can release his inner cow on command.

But New Yorkers must realize they are facing a crisis. If New York loses its reputation as a den of iniquity, people won’t be as eager to visit. Republicans will hold their conventions elsewhere.

It’s up to the mayor to step up and defend the city’s dishonor:

MAYOR: “As you know, there have been some disturbing reports that people in this great city of ours are going to parties where they put on pajamas and cuddle.

“I want to make one thing perfectly clear. These so-called cuddlers are not real New Yorkers. Real New Yorkers would not be caught dead cuddling.

“We are cold. We are wicked. We are degenerates. You cannot begin to imagine the immoral and disgusting behavior that is going on in my office right this minute — all by people on the city payroll.

“There are 8 million stories in this Naked City and, yes, I do mean naked. No pajamas allowed.”

If the mayor acts now he can still save the Christmas tourist season.

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As per Article V, Sec. 5.05(a), all owners and lienholders have ten (10) days from this date to reclaim their vehicles at South West Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges: VIN - IJJV532UOSL258164, 1995 Wabash trailer, white, Tennessee license T54 9914; VIN - IGNECI9WXSBI76420, 1995 Astro van, maroon, no license; VIN - IGCECI9R5TEI36099, 1996 Chevy Silverado 1500,

black/grey, MD license 33K 903 WTCC-09/02/04

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but not installed. From Passmore Rd. turn east on Ernest and left on Ellen. American Dream Real Estate, Armando Lopez, 252-5740; Rei Martinez, 630-9719.

8.09 acres, located on Socorro Rd. between San Elizario and Quadrilla, only \$12,000 per acre. Utilities available but not installed. Owner will finance. American Dream Real Estate, Rei Martinez, 630-9719; Armando Lopez, 252-5740.

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

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Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: Can I get benefits based on my deceased husband's Social Security earnings record? He has been dead for 14 years, and I will turn 60 in a few weeks. Or do I have to wait until I am 62?

A: If you meet the eligibility criteria, you can claim your widow's benefits right now. At age 60, you would be entitled to about 70 percent of your husband's benefit payment amount. If you wait until age 62, you would be due about 80 percent of those ben-

efits. If you wait until your full retirement age, you would receive 100 percent of your husband's Social Security benefit payment amount.

Q: If I apply for a wife's benefit based on my husband's earnings record, will that reduce his Social Security benefits? Will it have an impact on any future widow's benefits I might be eligible for?

A: Any benefit payments we make to you based on your husband's So-

cial Security record will not reduce his retirement benefits. And the amount of your widow's benefits depends on whether or not your husband started his benefits before his full retirement age, and how old you would be when you claim widow's benefits. The timing of your wife's benefit claim will not impact your future widow's benefits.

Q: My father died several years ago and, apparently, my stepmother never knew she was eligible for any Social Security benefits. Is there a statute of limitations for filing for Social Security benefits? If not, can she

claim retroactive benefits?

A: Your stepmother can file for Social Security widow's benefits at any time. If she meets the eligibility criteria, we usually will pay those benefits effective with the month she filed her application. In most cases, we cannot pay retroactive Social Security benefits.

Q: I am applying for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. If I qualify, will I get extra money to help pay for all of my medicines?

A: SSI pays a fixed monthly benefit, depending on your other income and









your living arrangements. As a general rule, if your SSI claim is approved, you also will be eligible for Medicaid, which would help pay for some or all of your medications. You should contact your local social services agency for more information about Medicaid coverage.

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
							
Sunny to partly cloudy.	Mainly clear.	Partly sunny, breezy and warm.	Sunshine and some clouds; warm in the afternoon.	Warm with partial sunshine.	Partial sunshine.	Mostly sunny.	Partly sunny.
▲ 88°	▼ 66°	▲ 92° ▼ 70°	▲ 94° ▼ 68°	▲ 94° ▼ 68°	▲ 92° ▼ 66°	▲ 90° ▼ 64°	▲ 88° ▼ 64°

UV INDEX

Statistics for noon.

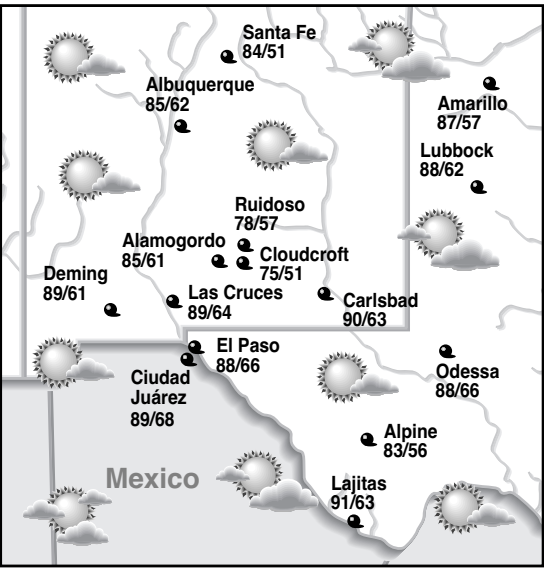
The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	90	66
Canutillo	90	66
Clint	89	66
E. Montana	88	66
Fabens	89	66
Horizon	90	67
San Elizario	87	64
Socorro	87	65
Tornillo	89	66
Vinton	90	66

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



TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur. Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	85/62/s	88/61/s	85/61/t	86/61/s	87/60/s
Atlanta	83/66/t	83/66/pc	86/68/pc	88/68/pc	86/68/pc
Atlantic City	78/60/s	76/62/s	78/64/s	80/64/pc	78/63/t
Austin/San Antonio	92/66/pc	91/69/pc	95/69/pc	95/70/pc	96/69/s
Baltimore	80/60/s	82/62/s	84/64/s	82/64/pc	80/60/t
Boston	72/55/s	76/60/s	78/62/s	74/60/pc	74/64/pc
Chicago	84/64/pc	86/64/pc	82/60/t	78/56/sh	80/55/pc
Dallas/Ft. Worth	93/70/pc	94/73/s	94/73/pc	93/73/t	92/67/s
Denver	86/54/s	74/50/sh	76/50/s	78/52/s	78/45/pc
Flagstaff	80/49/s	77/47/pc	77/47/s	76/46/c	79/47/s
Houston	92/70/t	92/72/t	94/72/t	92/72/t	90/70/pc
Kansas City	90/68/pc	86/63/pc	82/61/t	82/62/pc	83/55/sh
Las Vegas	104/78/s	98/72/s	98/72/s	98/75/s	100/75/pc
Miami	92/80/t	90/78/t	90/76/t	90/76/t	88/76/t
Minneapolis	86/64/s	77/58/t	74/56/t	71/55/c	71/48/c
New Orleans	89/74/t	88/75/t	90/75/t	91/75/t	89/75/s
New York City	76/65/s	78/67/s	83/69/s	79/66/pc	79/67/t
Philadelphia	80/64/s	82/66/s	84/68/s	80/68/pc	81/66/t
Phoenix	107/82/s	104/82/s	102/80/s	99/79/pc	102/78/s
Portland	69/54/sh	73/56/pc	78/56/pc	79/56/pc	80/62/s
San Francisco	75/57/s	84/59/s	84/59/s	78/58/s	77/62/s
Seattle	66/52/sh	68/54/pc	72/54/pc	72/53/c	74/58/s
Tucson	98/73/t	97/73/t	95/71/pc	93/71/t	92/71/t
Washington, DC	82/65/s	82/67/s	84/67/s	82/67/pc	83/64/t

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

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