



WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER



VOL. 32, No. 4 SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABENS, SAN ELIZARIO AND TORNILLO JANUARY 27, 2005

NEWSBRIEFS

Tsunami walk

Canutillo Elementary School faculty and students invite all interested individuals to join them on a walkathon along the Rio Grande River Park to raise funds for the Tsunami Relief Fund through the Red Cross. The walkathon will be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 29, and will begin at the Borderland Road Bridge. The walkers will follow the new paved path constructed in the Upper Valley along the Rio Grande starting at Borderland Road Bridge near Jose H. Damian Elementary School, at the corner of Borderland and Strahan Roads. Parking will be available for participants. “Money collected at the walk will go directly to the Tsunami Relief Fund through the Red Cross,” stated Susan Smith, CES teacher and facilitator for the event. “Everyone is invited to come, walk and donate,” she added. For more information, call Smith, at 877-7609, or Mark Matthys, executive director for El Paso Area Red Cross, at 592-0208.

Stock care

A few weeks into 2005, and many of us already have broken — or at least, bent — New Year’s resolutions involving our own health. However, the resolution to protect our animals should always be kept and can be implemented anytime. Texas state veterinarian Bob Hillman offers an alternative list for livestock and poultry producers that should carry significant priority:

- Fence out disease
- Never settle for “almost” in disease eradication
- Volunteer your herd for a cattle tuberculosis (TB) test
- Control flies and ticks
- Maintain a good relationship with your private veterinary practitioner
- Don’t stall; call to report unusual signs of disease or pests in livestock

“It doesn’t matter which species or how many head of livestock or poultry you own,” said Dr. Hillman. “Resolve to keep disease out, control pests, stay alert and report unusual signs of disease. Stay in touch with your private veterinary practitioner and you’ll have met important resolutions this year, and every year. These could be your most cost-effective and beneficial livestock and flock management decisions.”

In other news

■ Fourteen William D. Slider Middle School students who participated in the recent Huff Wagon Train across West Texas traveled to Austin by bus last weekend for a ceremony at the Texas capitol building Jan. 25. According to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department spokesman Tom Harvey, the students were met on the Capitol steps by State Rep. Harvey Hilderbran, Chairman of the State Cultural and

See BRIEFS, Page 4

Sometimes when a politician changes his mind, it doesn’t work any better than the old one.

— Quips & Quotes

Clint and San Elizario lose County public transit service

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — El Paso County will discontinue its rural bus service on Route 80 to Clint via Alameda and on Route 81 to San Elizario via Socorro, effective Friday, Jan. 28.

Bob Geyer, the County’s transit manager, said the termination of service on those routes was due to a lack of funds. The service was partially operating with Congestion, Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds from the Federal Transit Administration. Bus service on those routes started Jan. 28, 2002.

“Unfortunately, those funds are available for only three years at a time and only to implement new bus routes,” Geyer said. “However, many passengers who now use Route 80 to Clint will be able to use the County’s Rural Transit Route 40, and we’re working on how to provide the people of San Elizario with bus transportation.”

Geyer explained that the operating cost for those two routes was \$202,824 for each of the

three years. Revenues from the service amounted to approximately \$14,093 per year. The federal CMAQ funds paid 80 percent of the remainder, or an estimated \$150,985, with the County paying 20 percent of the deficit, or \$37,746.

“At this time, the budget does not allow the County to make such a commitment, and to pay the whole amount for the service,” Geyer said. “The County already has a Rural Transit system that provides service on four routes to Anthony, Montana Vista, Horizon City, Tornillo and Fabens through other grants from the federal and state governments.

“We know there’s a desperate need for more public transit outside the El Paso city limits,” Geyer added, “and we’re working on getting additional funding.”

Passengers who need a schedule of the El Paso County’s Route 40 to Clint can call 543-3848.

— Contributed by Guadalupe Silva

Fabens ISD proposes \$11 million in bonds to upgrade school facilities

FABENS — The Fabens school district will ask voters to approve \$11 million in bonds on Feb. 5, to obtain property for and finance construction of new school facilities for the district, and to authorize the district to levy its maintenance tax under current school finance law.

A district spokesman said Fabens Primary School was built in 1949; Risinger Primary School was built in 1953; and O’Donnell Elementary School was built in 1964. The proceeds of the bonds would be used to build and equip new facilities and renovate existing facilities.

Under the current Texas school finance system, the State pays approximately 90 percent of the debt service for the District’s outstanding bonds, and local taxes are used to pay the remaining 10 percent.

Assuming that the District would continue to receive a similar amount of State aid for debt service under either the current school finance system or under a new system, the property

owners in Fabens ISD would see an estimated tax increase of about seven cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, after homestead and other exemptions.

Based on current projections by the financial consultant to the District, the taxes on homes in Fabens would increase by approximately \$7.20 for each \$10,000 of taxable assessed valuation. A \$40,000 home would see an increase of about \$28.80 a year.

Citizens who are 65 years of age or older and who filed for the homestead exemption would be entitled to have their taxes frozen at age 65 and would not receive any increase in property taxes as a result of this bond issue, district officials said.

Early voting continues through Feb. 1, 2005 at the Rogelio Sanchez Center, 1331 N. Fabens Street in Fabens. Election Day voting will be Saturday, Feb. 5, 2005 at the Rio Valle Woman’s Club, 521 Mike Maros Street in Fabens.

Levine, Cook picked to head new SISD schools

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Socorro ISD’s two newest schools will be led by veteran district employees.

During the Jan. 18 regular meeting, the SISD Board of Trustees approved the selection of Janet Levine, assistant principal of O’Shea Keleher Elementary School to head the Hurshel Antwine campus while Loma Verde Elementary School assistant principal Susan Cook will lead the John Drugan campus.

The Antwine campus is now being built between Montana Street and Loop 375 North. The District plans to break ground for the Drugan campus within the next two months. Both schools will serve students from pre-kindergarten through the

eighth-grade.

Levine has worked in SISD as a teacher, programs specialist and assistant principal. She has worked at Socorro’s Myrtle Cooper, H.D. Hilley and O’Shea campuses, and also worked as an instructional specialist for the District’s Title I program. The New York native was graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Pace University in New York City, and Master of Science in Early Childhood Education from The College of New Rochelle in New Rochelle, New York. She says she’s excited about opening a new school and thankful for the opportunity,



Levine



Cook

See SISD, Page 5

Flu shots open to everyone

Hand-washing, staying home can prevent spread of flu

TEXAS — The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) recommended Tuesday that the flu vaccine be given to anyone 6 months of age or older.

Since October when a national flu vaccine shortage was announced, federal and state health officials had recommended limiting the flu shot to those in several priority groups.

DSHS officials said the goal had been to make sure those at high risk of severe complications from the flu had an adequate chance to get the flu shot.

“Demand for the flu vaccine from priority groups in Texas had been steady for several weeks.

But it appears, overall, that those demands are being met. We’re comfortable loosening the recommendations,” said Eduardo Sanchez, Texas Commissioner of State Health Services.

He said local public health departments may choose to continue recommending limiting the flu shot to priority groups, depending on the supply and demand situation in their communities.

Noting that flu season officially runs through May, Sanchez said, “It’s not too late to get a flu shot and have it do some good.”

Flu activity in Texas last week remained at the “widespread” level for the third week in a row.

Flu activity classifications range from no activity to sporadic, local, regional and widespread. The widespread classification is used when there is an increase in flu and flu-like illnesses and recent laboratory confirmed flu in at least half of a state’s regions.

The A/Fujian and B/Shanghai forms of the flu virus have been identified in Texas. Both are covered by this season’s vaccine.

People wanting to get a flu shot should contact their doctor, call the 2-1-1 information service or call their local public health department or nearest DSHS regional office.

It takes about two weeks after getting the flu shot for the vaccine to offer maximum protection.

A pneumococcal vaccine also is recommended for people 65 and older and those with chronic health problems to protect against pneumonia caused by pneumococcus bacteria. Pneumonia is often a complication of influenza.

Meanwhile, DSHS says forty-seven percent of Americans don’t wash their hands long enough to reduce the spread of cold and flu germs, according to a new poll, conducted by Harris Research.

Health officials say people should use soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand cleaner, and wash their hands for at least 15 to 20 seconds to effectively disinfect against germs, bacteria and viruses.

“We share cubicles, office equipment, and kitchen facilities with close interaction ongoing and unavoidable,” said Jeppe Gustin Ross, human resource director for the Texas Medical Association.

Confident you have the stamina to tough it out for an eight-hour work day? Your

See FLU, Page 4



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Uniformity

They say you can't judge a book by its cover,

a problem and who you don't want to see when you're engaged in questionable activity such as shoplifting, speeding or hijacking an airplane.

The same goes for uniforms associated with specific corporations, like the UPS man in brown, the McDonald's fast food worker in a jaunty little cap or the folks wearing the eternal blue Wal-Mart vest.

Uniforms, like book covers, can also be misleading. I recently watched the movie *Catch Me If You Can*, which is based on a true story. It stars Tom Hanks and Leonardo DeCaprio in which the latter performs astounding scams, successfully passing himself off as a teacher, an airline pilot, a doctor and a lawyer, all before his eighteenth birthday.

As unlikely as this sounds, there is one very revealing little story the scamster's father relates. He asks his son why he thinks the New York Yankees win so many games. His son replies that it was because — at that time — they had Mickey Mantle on the team. No, the father replies, it is because the opposing team is in awe of the pin-striped uniforms that signify the Yankees' stature. The young man successfully uses that principle to his advantage over and over.

Uniforms can do that, and terrible things have happened as a result of a criminal mind fooling an innocent with a false first impression.

But what about the rest of us? What kind of uniform do we purchase to put in our closets, choose to take out each morning, and why?

I grew up around men whose uniforms consisted of Western boots, Levi's and workshirts, topped off with a very practical cowboy hat. It took me a long time to get used to seeing men wearing slacks, regular shoes and dress shirts.

Then things got even more com-

plicated. Nowadays, the folks who work in agriculture and perform so-called country music are likely to dress like rockers and sports stars, while the insurance salesman is likely to come calling in traditional Western wear.

Things have never been the same since John Travolta and *Urban Cowboy*.

Among women, of course, dressing is as complicated as we can pos-

sibly make it. At a recent awards banquet, my companion noted that the "best and brightest" had chosen to wear their "best and tightest."

Some of the stuff we go out in public wearing should be against the law, or quarantined as a health hazard. Our "uniforms" vary from the latest in hooker wear to slovenly camp, from just the plain ordinary to what-was-she-thinking, and, occasionally, something truly

pleasant and tasteful.

My choices still run to the hopelessly practical — if I can't work in it, I probably won't wear it, which means lots of jeans and sturdy footwear. I really have to strive to strike a balance by incorporating the attractive and feminine. Like most women, though, I hold near and dear the prerogative to choose what I'm going to wear today.

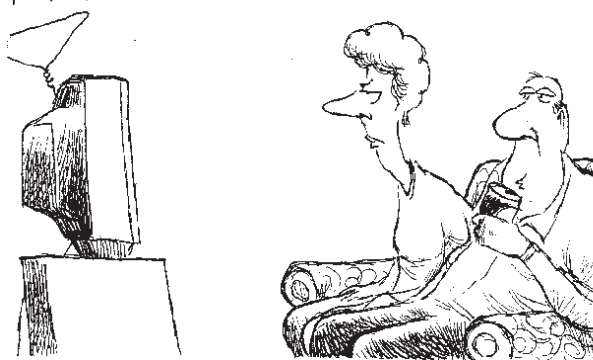
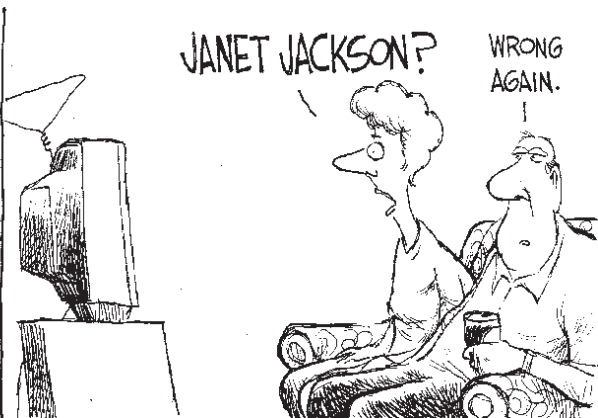
So much for uniformity.



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CHALVA WORLD, HERMAD KOTERBA



HOW NETWORKS PICK NEWS ANCHORS



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Reyes Reports

By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

North Korean meetings positive for security

During my first trip to Pyongyang, North Korea 18 months ago with a small group of congressional colleagues, none of us knew quite what to expect because North Korea is probably the most closed society on earth.

Some of our encounters were predictable — suspicion, anti-American tirades, and a chilly government-to-government reception. However, some things surprised us. For instance, the U.S. State Department had warned us that our accommodations would lack the bare essentials, but our hotel was comparable to a Holiday Inn and we were provided with soap, shampoo, towels, and toilet paper. We were permitted to walk around freely and speak to anyone we encountered. We also visited an art studio, went to a few restaurants, and even attended a religious service where we were welcomed by and worshiped with North Koreans.

On my second trip to North Korea earlier this month, the cold winter temperatures made it obvious that the country suffers from a catastrophic power shortage. While our meeting rooms were usually heated, it was apparent on our visits to public places that North Korean citizens are left to deal with brutal winter temperatures as best they can. During one meeting with General Lee, the chief Demilitarized Zone negotiator, he informed us that the room's chilly temperature was due to the United States' failure to follow through on our agreement to help the North Korean government build much-needed power plants. However, Lee forgets that this agreement was contingent on North Korea's promise not to develop nuclear capabilities.

Our mission on this trip was to get the North Korean government back

to the negotiating table in the six-party talks — and after our meetings, officials in Pyongyang said they would do so if the U.S. refrained from criticizing them. Through the six-party talks, Japan, China, Russia, South Korea, the United States and North Korea are working together to eliminate North Korea's nuclear capabilities, which are a threat to the security of the region and the world. During our initial visit, we were able to convince the North Koreans to begin these negotiations. Unfortunately, they backed out of the negotiations about six months ago, and things have been at an impasse ever since. So, it was left to us to convince them to return to the table.

We spent four days and three nights in North Korea and engaged not only their chief negotiator, but also met with President Kim Yong Nam, the official head of state of the Supreme Peoples' Assembly. This meeting was scheduled for fifteen minutes, but we actually spoke for an hour and a half. These discussions were tough, but necessary. At a press conference we held in Seoul, South Korea expressing our optimism that North Korea would return to the six-party talks as a result of these meetings, I was amazed that we received a standing ovation from the reporters.

Sometimes we forget that people who live under the threat of a nuclear holocaust are counting on us for their security. I met with Fort Bliss's Patriot soldiers stationed in South Korea and was struck by the fact that they face that same threat and are depending on the U.S. government to keep them safe from North Korea's nuclear weapons. We have done our job — now the ball is in the Administration's court.

TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, Jan. 29, 1854: The Permanent School Fund is set up by the Legislature to fund Texas' Public Schools and Universities.



Tornillo loses community matriarch in the death of Ana Maria Cano

TORNILLO — Ana Maria Gardea Cano, 82, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and friend sadly passed away on Jan. 20, 2005.

She was born in Tornillo in 1922 to Maria and Tanis Gardea and was a life-long resident of this East El Paso County community.

She was a member of Santa Rita Catholic Church, where she sang in the choir until 2000. She married Jesus Cano Sr. and they owned and operated the Tornillo Trading Post for most of their lives, from 1951 to 2002. Though he died 24 years ago, her store remained very important to her, as it was the central meeting place for friends, families and people passing through Tornillo.

“Ani,” as she was called, was a special friend to everyone. People not only came to buy, but just to visit, say hello and savor her delicious tacos and hamburgers. She touched many lives and will be greatly missed by all.

She took the education of Tornillo’s children very seriously, even providing meals for the Tornillo Headstart program students until the cafeteria was built. She also was active with the Paso Del Norte Food

Bank, to help provide assistance for the needy in the community.

She is survived by her daughter Graciela Cano Quintanilla and her husband Chente, her son Jesus Cano Jr. and his wife Bertha. Grandchildren Molly Ruttle and husband Chris, Sally Upchurch, Yvonne Flores and husband Alonzo, Yvette Quintanilla and husband Daniel, Chris Cano and wife Shanna, Brian Cano and wife Virginia. Great-Grandchildren Steven, Matthew, Ashley, Allison, Daniel, Brandyn, Brittany, Jarred, Matthew, Gabe and wife Andrea and Lawrence. Great Great-Granddaughter Sheala. Brother Ted Gardea, sisters Mague Zavala, Celia Ronquillo and Alicia Hernandez and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was buried Saturday, Jan. 22 in the Fabens Catholic Cemetery.

“The Quintanilla and Cano families extend our appreciation and gratitude to friends and family that were with us during the time of our sorrow when we lost our beloved Ana Maria Cano,” a family spokesman said. “Thank you for your prayers, food and friendship.”



NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

Cora Viescas, RPA/CTA Executive Director/Chief Appraiser, El Paso Central Appraisal District, is currently accepting application(s) for the following:

RENDITIONS

1. Personal Property (**mandatory beginning 2004 — failure to file a business rendition will result in a 10% penalty**).
2. Real Estate

DEADLINE FOR FILING OF RENDITIONS, PROPERTY INFORMATION REPORTS, AND REPORTS OF DECREASED VALUE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2005. A filing extension will be allowed for business renditions upon receipt of a written request received by the April 15, 2005 filing deadline.

EXEMPTIONS*

1. Residential Homestead Exemption
2. Over-65 Exemption**
3. Over 55 Surviving Spouse of a person who received the Over-65 Exemption
4. Medical Disability Exemption**
5. Veteran's Disability Exemption
6. Widow of Disabled Veteran Exemption

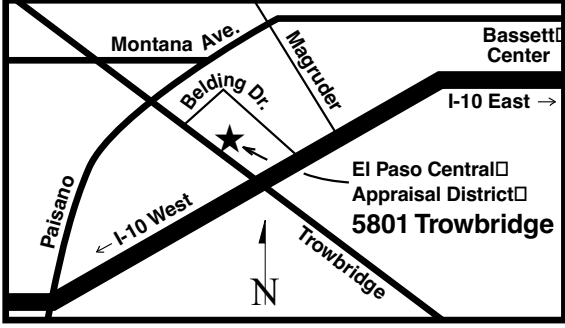

*If you received a Homestead and/or an Over-65 Exemption, or an Over-55 Surviving Spouse of a person who received the Over-65 Exemption, a Disability Exemption, or a Disabled Veteran's Exemption in 2003, it is not necessary for you to file again this year.

**The Over-65 School Homestead Exemption or Medical Disability Exemption can be transported to another home within Texas on a percentage basis. (Please contact the Appraisal District for forms and explanation.)

SPECIAL USE EVALUATIONS

Agricultural Valuation - Applications are being accepted for Ad Valorem Tax purposes as provided under Article III, Section 1-d and 1-d-1 of the Texas State Constitution. Properties qualifying under these Amendments are valued on the basis of Agricultural Productivity rather than their market value. The tax that would be levied on market value is deferred. Information on agricultural use valuation is available in the State Comptroller's Publication, *Taxpayers' Rights, Remedies & Responsibilities*. Copies are available at the Appraisal District Office.

DEADLINE FOR FILING EXEMPTIONS AND APPLYING FOR SPECIAL USE VALUATIONS IS MAY 2, 2005, FOR ALL TAXING JURISDICTIONS. ALL OF THE ABOVE APPLICATIONS MUST BE FILED EITHER IN PERSON OR BY MAIL AT THE EL PASO CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT, 5801 TROWBRIDGE, EL PASO, TEXAS 79925. TO OBTAIN APPLICATION(S) CALL (915) 780-2131, WRITE TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS, OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.ELPASOCAD.ORG.



NO FEE IS REQUIRED FOR FILING ANY OF THE ABOVE RENDITIONS, EXEMPTIONS OR SPECIAL USE VALUATIONS

Flu

From Page 1

coworkers and health officials disagree and want you to *stay home*. Coworkers are the number-one spreader of germs.

“I think all employers have an obligation to offer resources for preventing employee illness, but I also think employees have an obligation to their coworkers. Sick employees do a service to themselves and their coworkers if they stay home and get healthy before returning to work.,” said Ross.

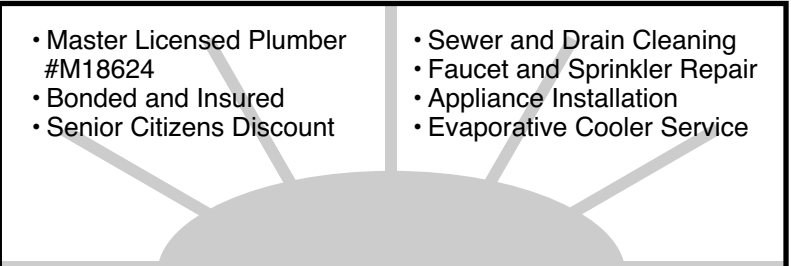
A growing problem for many American workers is they don’t get

paid if they stay home due to an illness. According to a June 2004 report by the National Partnership for Women and Families, 47 percent of Americans working in private industry have no paid sick days. For the workers who do, sick time often is used for other reasons, such as caring for a sick child or elderly parent. When an employee becomes sick with no sick leave remaining, he or she may believe the only option is to show up to work, spreading germs to those around them.

To get through this cold and flu season experts recommend frequent, effective hand washing, avoiding very crowded areas such as shopping malls, grocery stores, and movie theatres — especially if you are ill.

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Briefs

From Page 1

Recreational Resources committee. He thanked the students for their 650-mile journey across Texas and accepted the presentation of a copy of their book, *Gold Rush Diary of William P. Huff, The Texas Route* for inclusion in the state’s archives. The Socorro students joined the Huff Wagon Train’s 14 California students at the historic Socorro Mission Jan. 4 and lived the pioneer life for a few days.

■ The Theatre Department of Americas High School is presenting seven performances of William Shakespeare’s classic love story *Romeo and Juliet*. The shows will be staged in the school theater, 12101 Pellicano Drive, and are scheduled as follows: 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Feb. 3; 9 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Feb. 4; and 2:30 p.m. Feb. 5 and 6. Tickets are \$3 per person, and are discounted to \$2 per ticket for groups

of 100 or more. For information, call the Americas High School Theatre Department, 937-3077.

■ A free seminar to answer questions about buying and selling a home will be held in Socorro at 10461 Loretta Ken, off Buford to Santa Paulaon to Escalante, noon to 3 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 29. A loan officer and realtor will be on hand for the event.

■ Americas High School’s Blazer Gym will be the site of the sixth Annual Americas Cup Cheer and Dance Competition Feb. 25-26. The contest is sponsored by the National Cheerleaders Association (NCA) and the National Dance Alliance (NDA). The dance competition will be on Friday, Feb. 25, 6-10 p.m., and the Cheer competition is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 26 at 11 am. The entry fee for dance and cheer categories is \$20 per team, per event. The deadline to enter Friday, Feb. 18. NCA/ NDA Trophies will be awarded to the top three in each division and category. A Judges’ Choice Trophy

will be awarded to one dance and one cheer squad in each division, and the Grand Championship Trophy will go to the top Cheer and Dance Squad. Recreational, studio and all-star teams have their own division and will not be allowed to compete with public and private schools. For more information, call Americas High School Student Activities Director Miyesser Collins, 937-2832.

■ The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded over \$4 million in federal funds to organizations in El Paso for services provided to the homeless, according to Congressman Silvestre Reyes. These funds are through the Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance Program, which provides funding for a range of assistance to the homeless, including transitional housing, permanent housing and a variety of support services. The recipients include:

- \$1,214,400 to the Housing Authority of El Paso/A Caring Home.
- \$689,190 to the YWCA El Paso Del Norte Region/Mi Casa Child Development Center.
- \$515,767 to the Opportunity Center for the Homeless/Single Women’s Transitional Living Center.
- \$436,734 to the Opportunity Center for the Homeless/Transitional Living for Homeless Teen Mothers.
- \$420,000 to the Centro San Vicente Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services for the Homeless.
- \$325,655 to Centro San Vicente/ Homeless Youth Initiative.
- \$236,162 to the Opportunity Center for the Homeless/Transportation program.
- \$126,248 to the El Paso Center For Children, Inc./Learn to Live Transitional Center.
- \$50,400 to the Opportunity Center for the Homeless.

■ Twenty El Paso-area schools will compete for the Academic Decathlon championship Jan. 28-29 at Americas High School. Approximately 180 students from Region II of the decathlon organization will test their knowledge and skills against other students from the El Paso, Ysleta and Socorro school districts. Events for the high school students include essay and speech contests, math, economics, music, art and social studies challenges and more. Saturday afternoon’s 4 p.m. “Super Quiz” — a test of general knowledge — is presented in the style of a television game show. Winners’ awards will be presented at 7 p.m. Jan. 29, during ceremonies at Downtown’s Camino Real Hotel, 101 South El Paso Street. Nellie Ponikvar, SISD’s Director of Fine Arts, says teams from all four Socorro high schools are competing with schools of their size. “We have two divisions in Socorro. Winners from the 12 4-A schools will go to San Antonio for the state competition, while the eight 5-A schools will go to Corpus Christi.” The state competitions are scheduled for Feb. 25-27.

Tornillo Independent School District				
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance				
Governmental Funds				
For the Year Ended August 31, 2004				
Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	50 Debt Service Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:				
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 739,462	\$ 15,628	\$ 727	\$ 755,817
5800 State Program Revenues	7,239,597	728,740	171,940	8,140,277
5900 Federal Program Revenues	571,817	—	943,773	1,515,590
5020 Total Revenues	8,550,876	744,368	1,116,440	10,411,684
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
0011 Instruction	3,719,377	—	891,756	4,611,133
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	97,007	—	23,355	120,362
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	17,337	—	106,000	123,337
0021 Instructional Leadership	120,768	—	—	120,768
0023 School Leadership	466,811	—	3,533	470,344
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	123,854	—	624	124,478
0033 Health Services	60,371	—	693	61,064
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	133,008	—	679	133,687
0035 Food Services	486,677	—	15,244	501,921
0036 Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	328,339	—	130	328,469
0041 General Administration	484,720	—	1,838	486,558
0051 Plant Maintenance and Operations	982,601	—	10,081	992,682
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	175,061	—	3,090	178,151
0053 Data Processing Services	316,051	—	33,843	349,894
Debt Service:				
0071 Debt Service - Principal on long-term debt	22,585	250,000	26,500	299,085
0072 Debt Service - Interest on long-term debt	2,734	521,655	12,668	537,057
0073 Debt Service -Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	—	3,190	500	3,690
Capital Outlay:				
0081 Facilities Aquisition and Construction	—	—	39,452	39,452
Intergovernmental:				
0093 Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	—	—	25,249	25,249
6030 Total Expenditures	7,537,301	774,845	1,195,235	9,507,381
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	1,013,575	(30,477)	(78,795)	904,303
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):				
7915 Transfers In	—	—	39,668	39,668
8911 Transfers Out (Use)	(39,668)	—	—	(39,668)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(39,668)	—	39,668	—
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	973,907	(30,477)	(39,127)	904,303
0100 Fund Balance — September 1 (Beginning)	2,864,633	74,464	45,831	2,984,928
3000 Fund Balance — August 31 (Ending)	\$ 3,838,540	\$ 43,987	\$ 6,704	\$ 3,889,231

Canutillo ISD may name new road after fallen soldier

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

CANUTILLO — Canutillo ISD was presented some interesting issues, like selection of artificial turf, naming a new road, and deciding whether the district should go into park management during the Jan. 11 meeting of the board of trustees.

After discussion, the board approved use of artificial turf for the field. As a part of a total \$705,000 package, details of which were wrapped up at a subsequent Jan. 20 special board meeting, U.S. Track and Turf will handle the football field as well as outdoor surfacing for the basketball and tennis courts and the track.

Alfredo Vasquez, public information officer for the district, said the football field turf would feature a district logo of some kind. The school’s name would be in the end zones.

Trustee Raphael Reyes proposed naming the shared road that will run between the high school and the Northwest Campus of the El Paso Community College in honor of Sgt. Isela Rubalcava, a 1995 Canutillo High School graduate who was killed in Iraq. Education Blvd. was a name that had previously been suggested for the roadway.

Board president Joe Villarreal spoke of the importance of having public input before making a decision on the name. “Our mandate is to include the public,” he said.

Yusuf Farran, the district’s construction administrator for the high school, pointed out that the road belonged to the City of El Paso. The board instructed Superintendent Charles Hart to have Farran check with the city officials about the naming process and report back to the board.

County Commissioner Dan Haggerty seemed to be practicing the “try, try again” principle when he optimistically tried once again to persuade trustees of the Canutillo ISD

to take over operation of Gallegos Park.

Haggerty first proposed the idea in a meeting on Aug. 19, 2004 with Hart. The board formally rejected the offer Sept. 14 because of the expense of maintaining the facility.

“Somebody has to take it over; we can’t do it anymore,” Haggerty appealed to the board. “I want to give it to you; (but) it’s a loser; it loses money,” the candid commissioner continued. “It is losing money because it is a park.”

Haggerty’s plea, despite being sweetened with \$1.8 million in bond issue and state grant money, again fell on deaf ears as the board declined to take over operation of the Upper Valley park on Bosque Road near the high school.

The reason for turning down Haggerty was the same as at its September meeting — the ongoing expense of operating the park after the initial funds run out.

“We have enough of a problem educating our kids,” said Villarreal.

Haggerty said that if no one takes over the park, the county would have to give the land back to the PSB (Public Service Board). He said the county would probably stop maintaining the park after this year.

TISD shares championship during third annual tourney

By Rudy Barreda
Special to the Courier

TORNILLO — The Tornillo Independent School District hosted its third annual Tornillo Basketball Tournament, Jan 13-15. The three-day tournament included participants from Marfa, Van Horn, Anthony, and Ft. Hancock School Districts, as well as Tornillo’s own 7th and 8th grade basketball teams.

The Tornillo boys and girls teams took the championship in the 7th grade division. The 7th grade girls earned the championship for the third year in a row.

The Anthony boys team and the Marfa girls team were victorious in 8th grade division.

The TISD 7th grade boys team is coached by Carlos Garcia, and the 7th grade girls team is coached by Luis Esparza. The 8th grade boys team is coached by Willie Flores, and the 8th grade girls team is coached by Maria Rivera.

Tornillo Athletic Director Damaso Martinez and Coach Marlene Bullard did an outstanding job setting up the facilities and hospitality rooms for the visiting teams.

The Tornillo coaching staff



TOURNEY HOSTS — The Tornillo 7th grade girls basketball team, from left: top row: Esmerelda Sandoval, Yvette Rosales, Verenice Roman, Mary Ann Valenzuela, Joanna Matha, Maritza Sarianna, Coach Esparza; bottom row: Barbra Gomez, Christina Cortez, Denise Montoya, Leticia Carrillo and Queenie Fortaleza.

said they were gratified by the co- operation and high level of sports- manship exhibited by all the par- ticipating districts.

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SISD

From Page 1

adding, “When you give of yourself, you receive more than you give.”

Cook’s experience includes 15 years in various grade levels, including those for gifted and talented students. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Dickinson State College and a Master’s in Education from Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas. She taught in North Dakota and Montana before coming to SISD’s Horizon Heights Elementary School as a teacher. She was assistant principal of Myrtle Cooper Elementary School before joining the original staff of Loma Verde as assistant principal.

“To open a new school is by far one of the most exciting adventures that any administrator can endeavor. It is this unique opportunity in which the entire learning community develops a strong and enduring bond which is experienced and carried on by all involved. I look forward to working with the faculty and staff of Drugan, as well as meeting the students and parents, and committing to excellence together.”

Fabens Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended August 31, 2004

Data Control Codes	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:				
Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 2,047,032	\$ 90,474	\$ 95	\$ 2,137,601
State Program Revenues	16,258,296	609,947	663,913	17,532,156
Federal Program Revenues	1,158,668	—	3,038,873	4,197,541
Total Revenues	19,463,996	700,421	3,702,881	23,867,298
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
Instruction	9,303,683	—	2,518,744	11,822,427
Instructional Resources and Media Services	286,687	—	49,960	336,647
Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	42,399	—	63,005	105,404
Instructional Leadership	257,820	—	490,103	747,923
School Leadership	893,643	—	97,488	991,131
Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	326,043	—	163,021	489,064
Social Work Services	35,758	—	53,485	89,243
Health Services	210,490	—	109,870	320,360
Student (Pupil) Transportation	262,755	—	4,209	266,964
Food Services	1,078,743	—	29,374	1,108,117
Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	633,084	—	2,029	635,113
General Administration	1,007,198	—	56,405	1,063,603
Plant Maintenance and Operations	2,445,296	—	28,136	2,473,432
Security and Monitoring Services	302,262	—	9,401	311,663
Data Processing Services	18,173	—	—	18,173
Community Services	15,576	—	28,013	43,589
Debt Service:				
Debt Service - Principal on long-term debt	—	200,000	—	200,000
Debt Service - Interest on long-term debt	—	489,475	—	489,475
Capital Outlay:				
Facilities Aquisition and Construction	466,046	—	—	466,046
Total Expenditures	17,585,656	689,475	3,703,243	21,978,374
Net Change in Fund Balances	1,878,340	10,946	(362)	1,888,924
Fund Balance — September 1 (Beginning)	4,331,451	212,618	21,129	4,565,198
Fund Balance — August 31 (Ending)	\$ 6,209,791	\$ 223,564	\$ 20,767	\$ 6,454,122

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Don't worry. I'm here to explain your mysterious sense of loss.

We've not only come to an end of an era, we've just witnessed a complete and irreversible paradigm shift.

With the retirement of New Mexico State basketball coach Lou Henson last week, the last ties to the good old days of the local legendary coaching hierarchy were effectively clipped.

The days of one team, one coach, have become as common as choirboys.

The time of legends like Don Haskins and

Lou Henson have passed. For years we knew that the sun would come up in El Paso, politicians would do something questionable in El Paso, and Don Haskins would be the coach in El Paso.

And people in Las Cruces felt the same about Henson.

But like everything else in this country, things are changing at an alarming rate. Coaches don't coach at colleges any more. They make pit stops at colleges on their way to the bigger bucks at bigger colleges or the pros.

And what would this part of the country be like if these two gentlemen never came, or stayed? That's a memory I don't even want to think about.

The Los Angeles Lakers had a decision to make at the end of last season. The decision was either to keep Kobe Bryant or Shaquille O'Neal.

We all know who the Lakers chose and it's rather evident that they made a big mistake. While the Miami Heat are playing the best basketball in the East because of the addition of Shaq, the Lakers are battling to stay in the playoff hunt with Kobe at the helm.

But the Lakers are beginning to show signs of life. And the funny thing is that the Lakers started playing better after Kobe went out with his ankle injury.

Before Bryant got hurt the Lakers were struggling to stay above water with an 18-15 (54-percent) record. Bryant got hurt in the first quarter a couple weeks ago with his team trailing the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Without Kobe, the Lakers rallied over the final three quarters and won. In fact, the Lakers have gone 4-1 (80-percent) without Bryant since last Monday.

It's amazing how a team can perform when other players on the team get to touch the ball.

Want proof that Kobe's ball hogging hurts the team? Here's an interesting stat for you. When Kobe Bryant has led his team in scoring this year, the Lakers are 13-13. When some other player leads the team in scoring the Lakers are 9-3.

Coincidence? I think not.

There's no doubt that Kobe Bryant is one of the best individual talents in the league. But give me Steve Nash or Tim Duncan or Kevin Garnett any day. They do whatever it takes to make their team better.

All Kobe's ever worried about was stepping out from Shaq's considerable shadow. Well, now he has, and the results aren't impressive.

Larry Bird and Magic Johnson taught the league many years ago that the only way to win consistently was to include your teammates. Make them feel like you have confidence in their abilities.

I don't think Kobe Bryant has shown any of his teammates that he trusts them with the basketball.

And if the Lakers keep winning in his absence, the rest of the team may not trust Kobe when he comes back.

King Super Crossword

ALTERNATIVES ACROSS	67 Alibi	128 Hebrew text	34 Tide type	94 Parental sibling
1 Type of file	68 Coaching legend	131 Survival option	36 Earliest	96 Sgt. or cpl.
5 Broadway org.	72 Came by	134 "Oh, woe!"	37 Word with cow or horse	97 Solid circle
10 Bog	73 Exclude	135 Honshu metropolis	39 Acts like a chicken	98 New York city
15 _ Cass	74 Actress Hagen	136 Furry fisherman	40 Tennis stroke	100 Polo's place
19 Game ending?	75 Misjudge	137 Tourist isle	41 _ Bell Wells	102 Bk. convenience
20 Prentiss or Poundstone	76 "Make a decision!"	138 Riga resident	42 Donkey doc	104 _ -wop
21 Kind of quartz	80 Big __, CA	139 Katmandu's country	43 Bulldogs	107 Ship Sheena
22 Vizquel of baseball	81 "What __, a mind reader?"	140 Peter of Herman's Hermits	44 A shape that stops traffic	109 Literary pseudonym
23 Approximately	82 Appearance	141 List ender	49 Tiny Tom	110 Bright inventor?
25 Puzzling problem	83 Royal abbr.		50 Soap opera, e.g.	111 Dictator
26 "Peter Pan" pooch	84 Most meager	DOWN	52 Cassius' cohort	112 Pyramus'
27 Hester Prynne's kid	86 Pres., e.g.	1 Interstate exit	54 Pupil's place	paramour
28 Kids connect them	87 Delhi dress	2 _ vera	55 Medieval menial	113 Move like 51
30 Shorten a skirt	88 Assail	3 Writer Paretsky	57 Bouquet	Across
31 Social climber	90 Author Grafton	4 Give it one's awl?	58 Mississippi port	114 "Archie" character
32 James of "Misery"	91 Cry over a mouse?	5 Cal. page	60 Gary and Elizabeth	117 Push-button
35 Clods	92 Lena of "Havana"	6 Guitarist Sussman	62 Kickoff	predecessor
38 Owl or eagle	93 Showy shrub	7 Acted promptly?	64 Muppet drummer	119 Envelop
40 New Hampshire's motto	95 High-toned guy?	8 Besides	68 Quiet partner?	121 Schipa or Jackson
45 _ -do-well	99 Couch	9 Ecclesiastic	69 Hosts	122 Up on
46 Shelley showcase	101 Wax device	10 Cartographer's creation	70 Halloween	124 Flatten a fly
47 Lauder powder	103 Praise	11 Give it _ (try)	greeting	125 Kedrova of "Zorba the Greek"
48 Squealers	105 Summon mommy	12 Hasty	71 Ancient deity	126 Runner Zatopek
51 Zodiac crustacean	106 Enthusiastic	13 That's no bull!	73 Shakespearean	129 Record abbr.
53 32 Across' co-star	review	14 Grammy winner	tragedy	130 Smith or Foster
56 Mountaineers'	108 Hamlet's line	Woody	77 German poet	132 Novelist Kesey
63 32 Across' co-star	113 "Islands in the _" (83 hit)	15 Dragon or Dracula	78 Air bear?	133 Vein contents
66 Mountaineers'	115 Frame of mind	16 Words for a wimp	79 Flexed, as muscles	
gear	116 "Nonsense!"	17 Lord's lair	85 Born	
59 "Darn!"	117 Terrible	18 Spirited steed	87 Italian wine	
61 Envelope abbr.	118 Boar's beloved	24 Norwegian name	88 "The Jungle Book"	
63 Indeed	120 Rigatoni relative	29 Disconsolate	bear	
65 Egyptian Nobelist	123 Bridal path?	33 Humorist		
66 "Battle Cry" author	127 Brainchild	Buchwald	89 Glum drop?	

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Comix

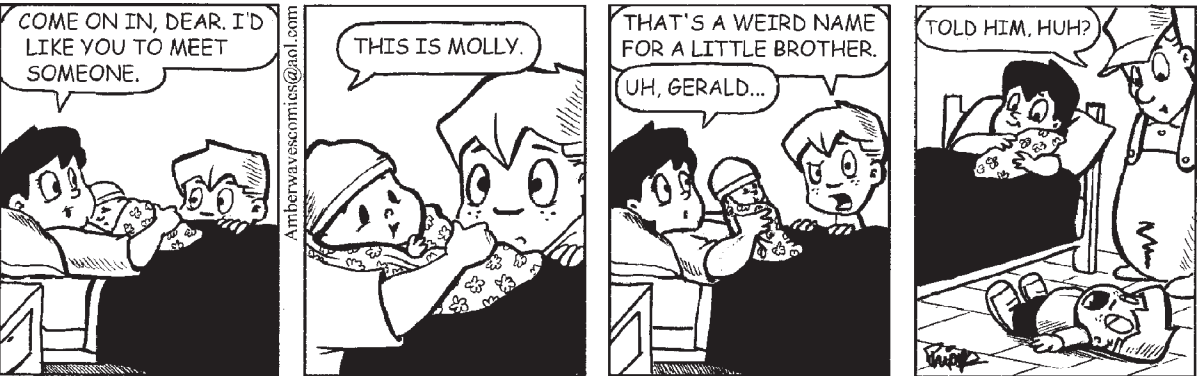
OUT ON A LIMB

By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES

By Dave T. Phipps



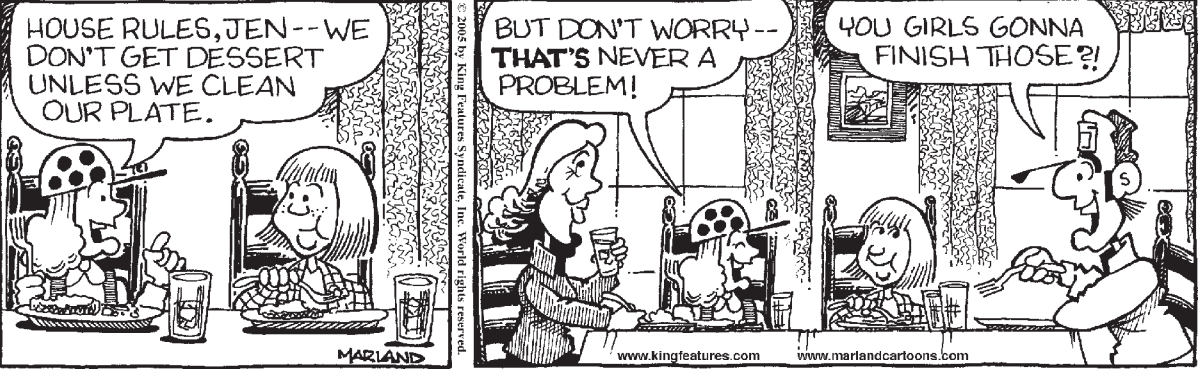
THE SPATS

By Jeff Pickering



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By Mike Marland



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So far out, I'm almost in

By Don Flood

Last year's Super Bowl controversy: Janet Jackson flashes 1 billion people.

This year's Super Bowl controversy: Where are the strippers?

For all the hullabaloo last year, I don't think you'd have too many people actually turning the TV off if Janet Jackson were to appear again.

Americans just don't get offended like they used to.

This New Year's Eve, for example, on national TV, a member of the band Mötley Crüe said a bad word — the big one. (A member of Mötley Crüe saying a bad word — who'd have guessed?)

But according to one story, NBC didn't receive a single phone call. Not one.

Oh sure, you probably had some people at home saying, "I can't bleeping believe it. They're bleeping cussing on network TV now."

But nobody so much as picked up their bleeping telephone.

Times are changing, to coin a phrase, which is obvious when you read the annual "what's in, what's out" listing in the Washington Post.

Naturally, I've never heard of anything on the "in" list.

Worse, I've never heard of anything on the "out" list either.

Which means: People, fashions, foods, styles have come and gone without even crossing my radar screen!

(I know, I know! Bob Dole thought "radar screen" sounded old foggy too, but he refused to tell me what all the hep cats are saying now.)

For example, Jimmy Choo is "out" and Holly Dunlap is "in."

No clue about either one. (Sure, I could ask Bob Dole, but he prob-

ably won't tell me.)

But all is not lost. There was one performer on the "in" list I could identify — Barry Manilow!

This is extraordinary. The only possible explanation is that Manilow was so far "out" he sneaked in from the other side.

Admitting to liking Barry Manilow when I was in high school — that's right, he goes all the way back to the 1500s — would have been like admitting to being radioactive, except you'd have less chance of getting a date.

His songs are so sugary they're off limits to people on a low-carb diet.

And speaking of diet, guess what's out — abs! Abs, of course, are the basis for most pop singers' recording careers. (Fortunately, they don't have to depend on their vocal cords.)

But something else is "in" — devil horns. Devil horns are what now make you a "hottie" (which I realize may be a dated term, but Bob Dole assured me it was still OK).

Naturally, you have questions: Do I have devil horns? Where do I look for them? Could I be a hottie?

Let me save you some time here. No to all three questions, you pathetic loser. Devil horns are muscles located just inside the hips, and real people don't have them. In fact, most experts in human anatomy agree they don't actually exist.

That's because to have devil horns you have to either 1) swim 32 hours a day, or 2) be stranded on a desert island with nothing to eat but Barry Manilow recordings.

And either option would drive you bleeping crazy.

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Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

Q: I didn't sign up for Medicare medical insurance when I was first eligible. Can I sign up now?

A: If you did not sign up for Medicare Part B when you were first eligible, what we call your initial enrollment period, each year you are given another chance to sign up during a general enrollment period. The general enrollment period begins January 1 and ends March 31 of each year. If you sign up during this general enrollment period this year, your

coverage will begin July 2005. The monthly premium for Medicare Part B for 2005 is \$78.20. However, your monthly premium increases 10 percent for each 12-month period that you were eligible but did not enroll, so your premium might be higher if you are enrolling during this year's general enrollment period.

Q: I am 63 years old, and planning to retire this year. But I still have two children, ages 16 and 11, living at home. Will they be eligible for

monthly Social Security checks after I retire?

A: Monthly Social Security payments may be made to a worker's unmarried children under age 18, or age 19 if still in high school, or children age 18 or over who were severely disabled before age 22 and who continue to be disabled. Children who may qualify for benefits include the worker's biological child, legally adopted child, dependent stepchild or dependent grandchild.

Q: I have had direct deposit of my Social Security checks for several

years now. But I am thinking of changing to a different bank that is offering a better interest rate on my checking and savings accounts. What do I need to do to make sure my direct deposit isn't messed up?

A: When you open the account at your new bank, ask for direct deposit. Staff at the bank will be glad to help you. Or, you may call Social Security's toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213. When you call, be sure to have your Social Security number and a personal check or statement from your new account. The Social Security representative









will need information from these documents to start your new direct deposit. Also, we recommend that you wait until deposits are going to your new bank, savings and loan or credit union before you close your old account.

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
							
Mostly cloudy, chance of a little rain.	Some clouds.	Partly sunny.	Several hours of sun.	A good deal of sun.	Partial sunshine.	Mostly cloudy.	A good deal of sunshine.
▲ 62°	▼ 38°	▲ 60° ▼ 36°	▲ 62° ▼ 38°	▲ 60° ▼ 32°	▲ 58° ▼ 30°	▲ 56° ▼ 28°	▲ 56° ▼ 28°

UV INDEX

Statistics for noon.

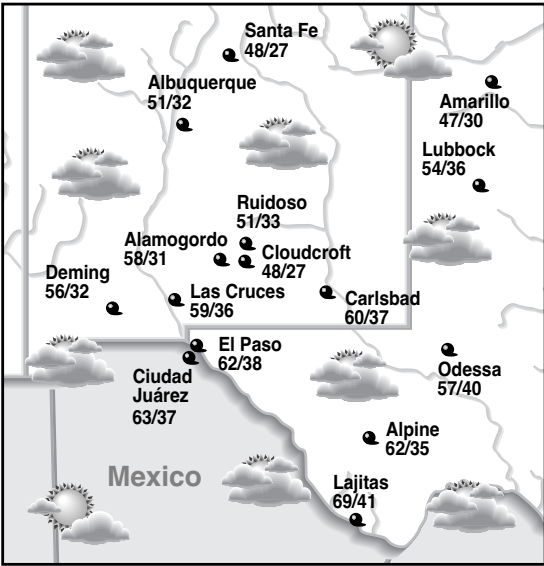
The higher the UV Index, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Thursday	3	Low
Friday	5	Moderate
Saturday	5	Moderate
Sunday	5	Moderate
Monday	5	Moderate
Tuesday	3	Low
Wednesday	5	Moderate

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	60	37
Canutillo	61	38
Clint	60	38
E. Montana	61	38
Fabens	60	38
Horizon	61	38
San Elizario	59	35
Socorro	61	38
Tornillo	60	38
Vinton	61	38

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	51/32/r	54/30/pc	54/30/pc	52/29/pc	49/22/r
Atlanta	52/36/pc	50/32/pc	44/38/r	50/40/pc	57/38/r
Atlantic City	23/8/pc	30/16/s	38/30/pc	45/33/pc	45/28/sh
Austin/San Antonio	59/46/r	62/42/r	62/38/pc	62/44/r	61/38/r
Baltimore	24/10/pc	26/14/s	37/28/pc	39/30/sn	46/28/r
Boston	16/4/sn	20/10/s	32/20/pc	36/28/c	40/27/c
Chicago	24/12/pc	30/18/pc	34/24/sn	38/28/sn	40/25/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	52/42/c	50/38/r	58/40/pc	58/40/r	55/32/r
Denver	45/24/c	53/26/pc	51/22/pc	45/20/c	46/14/c
Flagstaff	40/23/sn	44/21/c	44/19/r	42/19/pc	46/17/pc
Houston	64/49/r	58/42/r	60/42/c	64/40/r	56/38/r
Kansas City	34/25/pc	36/28/sh	42/31/c	48/32/r	49/26/c
Las Vegas	60/44/sh	60/42/sh	60/40/r	58/40/pc	58/38/s
Miami	78/62/pc	76/64/pc	78/64/pc	78/62/pc	78/60/s
Minneapolis	22/12/pc	30/20/sn	32/22/sf	39/25/c	35/19/c
New Orleans	68/52/c	65/50/r	66/48/c	64/48/c	65/45/r
New York City	20/10/pc	23/14/s	31/28/pc	44/34/c	41/31/r
Philadelphia	23/10/pc	26/14/s	36/30/pc	38/30/sn	44/29/sh
Phoenix	64/45/sh	66/47/pc	66/49/pc	66/47/sh	68/44/s
Portland	50/42/sh	50/40/r	50/37/sh	50/38/r	51/38/pc
San Francisco	58/50/pc	56/46/r	57/46/pc	58/47/c	59/48/c
Seattle	50/42/sh	50/40/r	50/39/sh	49/39/r	49/38/c
Tucson	63/40/sh	64/40/pc	66/40/pc	66/40/pc	64/38/pc
Washington, DC	27/15/s	30/20/s	39/30/pc	47/37/c	44/33/r

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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