



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Clint gets speedy

High-speed internet service will soon be coming to Clint, thanks to a technology investment backed by bipartisan legislation, according to an announcement by Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and House Speaker Tom Craddick this week. The Texas Legislature produced a comprehensive update of Texas communications laws in Senate Bill 5 last year. Now government reps and communications companies are saying it has opened the way for AT&T to invest \$800 million in new technology and electric delivery companies to invest \$150 million in broadband over power lines, the largest roll-out in the nation. When completion is reached, expected by the end of 2006, every switching location in Texas served by AT&T will be capable of providing high-speed DSL internet service.

### Meeting for names

Canutillo Independent School District Facilities Naming Committee will hold a Town Hall meeting to discuss the naming of five athletic facilities located at the new Canutillo High School. The facilities include the football stadium, gymnasium complex, tennis complex, baseball, and softball fields. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Wednesday, February 22, in the CHS Theater, 6675 South Desert. The meeting is open to the public. The meeting will consist of a review of previously submitted nominations and acceptance of new nominations. For more information call 877-7482.

### In other news

■ The Montana Vista community on East Montana now hosts a recycling center, open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 15698 Montana. Newspapers, papers, plastics, and used motor oil will be accepted. This is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pilot project. Call 772-7657 for information.

■ Montwood High School is accepting nominations for the school's Ring of Honor, for alumni or ex-employees of the school, with a deadline of Monday, Feb. 20. Those honored have made continued contributions to society through community activities or in their chosen fields of endeavor that bring credit to the campus. Call 937-2615 for more information.

■ For the first time in El Paso, Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande presents: Cookie Box Creations! This program partnered 75 girls, ages 11-17, with eight local architect and engineer firms. In this unique, educational design contest, each team was challenged to turn 800 empty Girl Scout cookie boxes into eight-foot freestanding structures that reflect this year's Cookie

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*It's funny how we never get too old to learn some new ways to be foolish.*  
— Quips & Quotes

## C-SPAN bus is eye-opening exhibit for Montwood students

By Carlos A. Briano  
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Students at Montwood High School did not realize that when the 45-foot, bright yellow C-SPAN bus rolled into their school, over a million dollars worth of television production equipment was parked in the parking lot. But C-SPAN was bringing them something more valuable — knowledge and a call to action. “It was interesting to see the production bus,” says Montwood senior Alexandra Kelley. “I think it's nice that they care enough to educate us about what it is that they do.”

The network's community outreach vehicle, which travels 11 months of the year, made its



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

**HERE'S HOW IT WORKS... — Montwood government and history students were able to tour the C-SPAN mobile production studio and demonstration center.**

way to Montwood High on Feb. 7. And for a few hours, government and history students were able to tour the mobile production studio

See BUS, Page 4

## Canutillo ISD school board names new principal

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Canutillo ISD Board of Trustees approved unanimously the administration's recommendation to name Annette Brigham as the principal for the new Jose J. Alderete Middle School, which is scheduled to open in August. The approval was given during a special School Board meeting held February 9.

Brigham, who has been principal of Bill Childress Elementary School for the past six years, said that she welcomed the challenge. “I am an advocate for my students, and I will do everything necessary to ensure that the new middle school has the faculty, staff, and facilities necessary to provide all student with a quality education,” Brigham said.



Annette Brigham

The naming of the new principal comes about a month after the school board voted to realign district campuses so that instead of opening a fifth and sixth grade school next year at the current Canutillo Middle School site at 801 Talbot as initially planned, the District will open a second middle school, the Jose J. Alderete Middle School. The current Canutillo Middle School will move to the old Canutillo High School at 7311 Bosque. Both middle schools will serve students in grades sixth through eighth.

CISD Superintendent Dr. Pam Padilla, stated that a major reason for the change is the unprecedented growth the district is experiencing. “Our best estimates predicted that most of our new students would be early elementary school age. However, we have

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## Superintendent has positive expectations for Anthony ISD

By Don Woodyard  
Courier Staff Writer

ANTHONY — *Great Expectations* is a novel by Charles Dickens but Vern Butler, superintendent of the Anthony Independent School District, speaks of expectations in a slightly different way. One of his goals for his Upper Valley school district is having “higher expectations” for the students.

This carries over equally to the parents, he underscores, so they may know what is expected of their sons and daughters.

A higher expectation for students is the first of three goals Butler lists as he prepares to embark on his third year at the helm of the AISD.

Better parental involvement in the educational process for their sons and daughters.

Better communication — between the district and the student, between the district and

parent and better communication between the district and the community. “We need to do a better job of involving the community and meeting those expectations,” he says.

Butler, who took over as superintendent on March 1, 2004, emphasizes the importance of better communication. Without better communication, those higher expectations cannot be achieved.

Both elements, higher expectations and better communications, are sign posts along what Butler terms a “pathway to success.” He envisions students achieving excellence along that pathway.

“I feel good; I feel positive about what we have done so far,” he says. “But we have so much more to do.”

He is setting objectives “for myself and the leadership team to carry over to benefit not only the rest of the faculty, but the community as well.”

Butler reaffirms what he has said previously

See ANTHONY, Page 2

## Governor launches security program to beef up border security

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry has launched “Operation Rio Grande,” a state-led initiative to address escalating violence, increase border security and ensure Texans' safety. The operation brings together a variety of state resources to better secure the Texas-Mexico border from Brownsville to El Paso.

“There is not only great concern that the drug trade is becoming more aggressive, but that terrorist organizations are seeking to exploit our porous border,” Perry said. “Last year alone, 135,000 people who are not of Mexican descent were apprehended entering Texas illegally.”

Recent events along the border indicate that violence and criminal activity have escalated, including the apprehension of four Iraqis headed to U.S. soil by Mexican officials, the discovery of a criminal organization's weapons stockpile in Laredo that included improvised explosive devices and fragmentation hand grenades, and the recent chase of narco-terrorists involving local deputies and Department of Public Safety (DPS) officers in Hudspeth County.

“With ‘Operation Rio Grande’, the state will take the lead role in coordinating state and local efforts to detect, track and deter criminal activity along the border,” Perry said. “Using intelligence, available state assets, and a new command and control structure, we are going to take back our border from those who exploit it.”

Perry activated the Governor's Emergency Management Council and placed the Texas Fusion Center on the highest alert level under the supervision of Texas Homeland Security Director Steve McCraw. The State Operations Center will serve as a central point of coordination for state, local and federal officials, as well as a single hub for incident reporting and intelligence support for law enforcement agencies up to 100 miles away from the Rio Grande River. It's the first time the State Operations Center has been activated to coordinate a law enforcement operation.

As part of “Operation Rio Grande,” Perry has also ordered deployment of: a DPS rapid response team of state troopers dispatched to troubled areas; DPS narcotics, motor vehicle theft and criminal intelligence investigators to conduct covert patrols and surveillance activities; DPS fixed and rotary aviation assets to support Operation Linebacker patrols; a DPS SWAT Team and the development of regionalized, enhanced swat teams with rapid response capabilities; a border-wide investigation of alleged incursions by the Mexican military, conducted by the Texas Rangers; and other state assets, including Texas Department of Criminal Justice canine search teams, Texas Parks and Wildlife game wardens, and Texas Department of Transportation road barriers.

The Texas Army National Guard planners and analysts will also provide support.

“Operation Rio Grande” builds upon Operation Linebacker, an initiative developed by the 16-member Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition to deter border-related criminal activities through increased manpower and equipment. Perry has provided nearly \$10 million to Operation Linebacker since December.

— Contributed by Kathy Walt





# One perspective

By Francis Shrum

## The real me

This week, being unfortunate host to Valentine's Day, has been filled with all kinds of malarkey about love. Mostly advertising, since this lustful celebration has ranking on the commercialism meter second only to Christmas.

Ka-ching go the cash registers as America searches for the true meaning of love, fueled by the desire to find that certain special someone who will love us for who we really are — for "the real me."

Well, sorry, folks. That real special somebody is a figment of our imagination and even if he or she showed up, they wouldn't love us very long if they really could see into our souls, into the very heart of the person we are. Better to keep the real you a little camouflaged.

It's not a pretty sight.

True love — the old hard-knocks, survivalist kind that doesn't duck and run at the first sign of adversity — isn't based on whether or not we love the inner-most being of our significant other.

It's based on whether we can love them, or they us, *in spite of* who we really are.

Of course, this goes against everything we want to believe. If this were accepted as the truth it really is, a

huge segment of our economy would go down the tubes, from publishers of romance novels to candy manufacturers to jewelry stores.

There is something in us that hangs onto the fairy tales about happily-ever-after. We want to think that there is somebody, somewhere, who is not only going to accept our every fault, failure, bad habit and deficiency, but be enthralled by it. We dream of the Prince Charming or Cinderella who will arrive in one glorious moment and never change.

What strikes me as humorous is that millions of women, and more men than you would expect, watch daytime soap operas. These "romantic" American institutions are a never-ending portrayal of relationships in which *no one* is ever true, honest or faithful. Yet we eat 'em up with a spoon, yearning for that wild, romantic rush — albeit vicariously — when two people hear the mating call at the same time. And how long does it last? Well, sometimes, in a really long-term soap relationship, at least until the next commercial.

Ever wonder whether Romeo and Juliet would have stayed together if they had lived long enough to have a mid-life crises or whether the prince would still love Rapunzel after she got a hair cut and gained some weight? Never mind, we don't want reality mixed in with our fantasy. The

farce of human romanticism denies the simple reality that people are just people — every single one of us flawed, ugly, odorous and messy in some way or another.

In fact, the best we can hope for is to find someone who recognizes in us enough desirable qualities that they can overlook all our undesirable ones. It is especially conducive to success if we feel the same way about them.

Let's face it, you don't find guys who are loving, gentle and caring who will also go to battle with the world while changing a flat tire and single-handedly remodeling the house. On the other, there aren't too many women who have high-powered, high-paying jobs who aren't going to be equally demanding when it comes to running the home — or who are still cuddly when they get there.

In other words, we don't get it all. What we do get are bits, parts and pieces, some good, some bad, pretty and ugly. What we do with these, what kind of mosaic we put together with them, are the result of a lot of hard work, creativity and — dare I say this? — patience.

In a good relationship, two people have recognized their own shortcomings and instead of flaunting them in their sweetie's face in an attempt to make him or her prove how much they care, they go out of their way to conceal them, or at the very least, keep 'em under control.

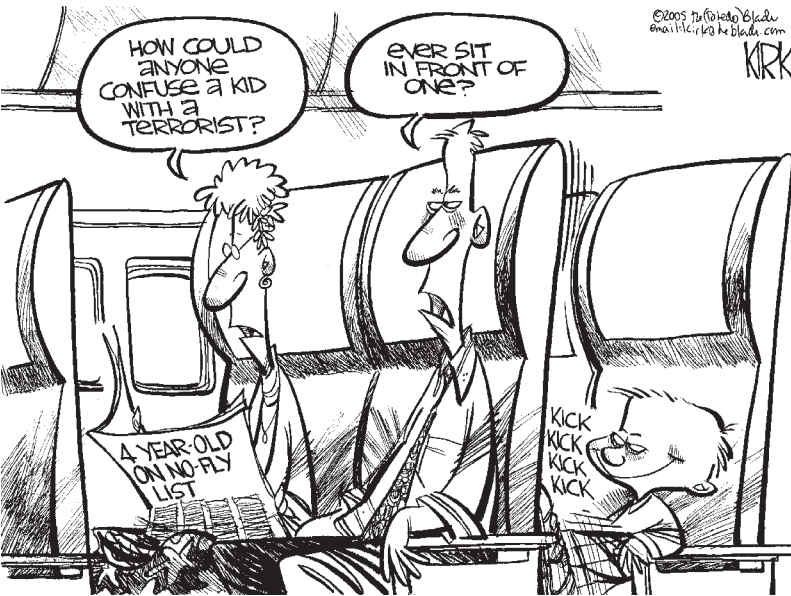
Why, that's dishonest, the love merchants will shriek. That might actually make a relationship last, and where is the profit in that? Where is the romantic suspense, the tears, the frustration, the pain, the agony? What will happen to our profits if a guy isn't so shallow that candy and jewelry are the only way he has to show his girl he loves her? Or if she isn't shallow enough to demand them?

I heard a good joke about the first man discussing what kind of mate he wanted his Creator to give him. What will it cost me, he asks, to get a beautiful, smart, talented, rich, loving woman who will also give birth to and raise a whole bunch of kids?

An arm and a leg, was the reply.

In that case, he says, what can I get for a rib?

So much for Cinderella.



### Anthony

From Page 1

— that he doesn't see the small school district consolidating with the larger, adjacent Canutillo ISD, unless it is mandated by new state law. He adds, "I don't think the community is going to give up their school district. They take pride in it."

The superintendent says AISD has moved to Division 3A from 2A. The reason for the change was the long distances involved in traveling for various activities and the toll it took on the kids not to mention the extended periods of time away from school.

Anthony will play Clint High School, Fabens, Tornillo, Pecos

and Monahans in football. For all other sports, Anthony will be competing with Clint, Tornillo, Fabens and Presidio.

Looking back at the past school year, he notes the completion of the high school library and a new technology lab. Looking ahead, he and the board are seeking funding for new shelving to accommodate the books.

He praises the level of professionalism in the district staff for what has been achieved.


And the district has grown — from 752 in the 2004-05 school year, Butler says the student population now stands at around 806. He says there is room for growth with current facilities without new construction. He said the strategic planning committee will focus on future needs of the district.

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## Por la Gente

By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

### Education voting record is good

As I reflect on my second term as your Texas State Representative for District 75, I have set a priority to introduce a bipartisan plan to fully fund our public schools and cut high property taxes immediately. The Court's June 1, 2006 deadline makes the need for the Legislature to come together and address this issue even more pressing.

I have been committed to full time public service and have a great deal of love and respect for my district. I was raised in Tornillo which is where I make my home. I am a family man who has worked hard to insure a good education for all my children. Therefore, I am proud to have been given an A+ on my voting record on education issues by the Texas Federation of Teachers. I served more than 21 years as the Assistant Superintendent of Administration for the Socorro ISD but I

have also been a school principal, assistant principal, elementary and middle school teacher, and football, basketball, and track coach. Thus, I can honestly say that I've run the gamut of jobs in education and am very familiar with the necessity of educating our youngsters, our future leaders.

During my tenure as a freshman delegation member I have encountered many challenges which include working under a Republican leadership majority, a \$10 billion budget deficit my first term and a \$5 billion deficit in 2005. But I have held to my Democratic principles and helped defeat bad legislation that would have hurt our current public school funding. My actions for a better, stronger, equal, public school funding plan include my continuous work to bridge bi-partisan support for a quality public education finance plan and derail bad education policy that will be malignant for our children.

As your voice in Austin I have filed

and supported legislation to protect colonia residents, to control the proliferation of colonias, to provide interest-free loans from the Texas Water Development Board for water districts in economically distressed areas, and to offer manufactured home buyers grant loan programs. I have also sought to promote a more efficient, effective, and less expensive method of providing water to East Montana. This bill authorized the Board of Directors of the Homestead Municipal Utility District to dissolve the district and transfer the district's assets and liabilities to the City of El Paso. I also filed legislation to protect senior citizens from predator fraud with stiff penalties for those who commit fraud against elderly.

Throughout these four years — two terms — in office, I have been humbled by your vote of confidence. I am a man with no hidden agenda who is dedicated and respond to our community's needs.



# Veteran, educator and community servant Landis Curlee dies at 81

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Landis M. Curlee, a pioneer in education in the El Paso region as far back as 1951, died on Feb. 5, 2006 at the age of 81.

His career spanned 35 years and touched at least seven area school districts, three of which he was superintendent.

Born in Ben Hur, Texas in June of 1924, he graduated from Ben Hur High School in 1942 and obtained a BS degree from Abilene Christian College before heading for El Paso County.

He was also a veteran of WWII.

Curlee eventually earned a Masters degree at UTEP. He started teaching

at Clint High School in 1951 and he either taught or was an administrator in the Tornillo, Ft. Hancock, Socorro, San Elizario and Ysleta school districts. He was a past superintendent of Socorro ISD, Ft. Hancock ISD, and San Elizario ISD. Over the years he taught everything in high school from math, algebra and geometry to

business law, speech, drama, social studies, and typing. A short-lived retirement ended in 1985 when he began teaching 5th grade in Ysleta. He also taught adult ESL (English as a Second Language) classes at night, developing his own textbook for conversational Spanish — an off-shoot of his extensive travels in Mexico.

In 1966, Curlee and his wife, Maria Teresa, built a house on Homestead Drive in a new development under-way by Horizon Corp., now known as Horizon City.

A licensed “ham” radio operator, Curlee was an ever-present force in Horizon’s early years. He wrote the charter for and was the first elected president of the Horizon City Homeowner’s Association, which served as the unofficial “town council” before the town incorporated in 1988. He flipped more pancakes than anyone cares to count during fund-raising events for the Horizon City Kiwanis Club, of which he was a past president.

Curlee was appointed to serve as the volunteer director of the Oz Glaze Senior Citizen Center following its opening in 1998. He did so with gusto until his health interfered in 2000.

The veteran educator and community servant was honored with designation of Dec. 13 as Landis Curlee



— Courier file photo

**Landis Curlee in 2001, with award honoring his service at the Oz Glaze Senior Citizen's Center.**

Day by the Horizon City Town Council, and a prominent street in a Horizon development has been named in his honor.

He is survived by his wife, Teresa; daughter Lilian and her husband Brian; grandson Jacob; numerous nieces, nephews and numerous friends.

He was buried on Thursday, Feb. 9 at the Ft. Bliss National Cemetery.

## Eye on D.C. By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

### Crisis on the border

Lately, our Texas border communities have been facing escalating violence and an insurgence of smuggling efforts. On Jan. 23 in Hudspeth County, an armed standoff took place between Texas authorities and apparent drug smugglers wearing uniforms that appeared to be Mexican military. Although the Mexican government denies any connection to the smugglers, the brazen attack signifies the drastic steps these criminals are willing to take to cross the border into the U.S.

Days prior to this fierce stand-out, I was in Del Rio and Eagle Pass to meet with our U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CPP) and Border Sheriff’s personnel and observe their efforts to protect our border. While in Del Rio, I witnessed two separate drug busts. In Eagle Pass, I saw 100 pounds of marijuana they confiscated the week before in a successful bust. While these busts are major accomplishments, violence along our border continues to be a major problem for our communities. Our border security personnel are putting their lives on the line every day, but they need help.

Last week, I organized a listening session for members of the Texas

Delegation to hear the concerns and ideas presented by members of the Texas Border Sheriffs’ Coalition, as co-chair of the Congressional Border Caucus and vice-chair of the U.S./ Mexico Caucus. I was able to bring together 10 county sheriffs and 12 members of Congress from across Texas to discuss this issue. Because interest was high, the meeting ended up taking three times the originally allotted time.

In the meeting we discussed the passage of the Border Security, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act last December, including the Border Law Enforcement Act of 2005. This provision provides funding for Operation Linebacker, a highly successful program to integrate law enforcement resources along the border between points of entry. It will provide 29 counties along the southern border with \$100 million in grant reimbursement funding to hire, train, and equip deputies, and build detention space to house illegal aliens for deportation.

We also discussed the recent successes of “Operation Streamline II,” a multi-agency law enforcement initiative started last December by the U.S. CBP Del Rio Border Patrol Sec-

tor. This program brings together the CBP Border Patrol, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Detention and Removal, Federal Pre-trial Services, U.S. Attorney’s Office, and the U.S. Marshals Service to target aliens who enter illegally through a high-traffic area within the Del Rio Border Patrol Sector. As a result of Operation Streamline II, those illegal aliens who are not released due to humanitarian reasons will now face immediate detention, prosecution, and finally, deportation. Prior to Operation Streamline II, illegal immigrants did not face the assurance of detention or prosecution.

While these programs have been very successful, in Congress, we must fight for increased funding for more agents on the border, superior technology, more detention beds, and an end to the current “catch and release” policy. The efforts of our Border Sheriffs to catch, detain, and deport those who enter illegally are deterring potential violators. We must give our CBP and Border Sheriffs the resources they need.



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

### Keeping assistance programs

President George W. Bush submitted his fiscal year 2007 budget to Congress last week, and proposed cuts in funding for several domestic programs border residents rely on, such as health care, housing, veterans care and assistance, and education.

#### Food Assistance

My colleagues and I in Congress will use the President’s budget as a template to shape our yearly funding bills, and I am already working to block many of these cuts. For example, my colleagues and I have written to the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to express our concerns about the elimination of the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP).

The CSFP dates back to 1968 and provides healthy groceries, such as dairy products, meats, vegetables and bread to low-income individuals. It mainly serves seniors, but also provides food and other items such as infant formula for low-income families with babies. The program serves

over 475,000 low-income families every month, and is an important tool for many who have to stretch their thin budget just to buy prescriptions and utilities.

President Bush has proposed to transfer seniors and families in the CSFP to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, known as WIC, or to food stamps. This proposal, though, is not in the best interests of CSFP recipients. Our elderly population is the most reluctant population accessing food stamps, and many will reject the idea of going on food stamps or applying for assistance. Moreover, many elderly citizens will not qualify for the same amount of groceries they receive from CSFP, and will lose helpful and sometimes necessary services offered by CSFP, such as home delivery of food every month.

#### Veterans

I have also had the opportunity to present my concerns about the President’s budget to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Jim Nicholson. I am a member of the House Veterans’ Affairs Committee, which questioned Secretary Nicholson about the proposed De-

partment of Veterans Affairs budget last week.

I have mixed feelings about the Administration’s Department of Veterans Affairs budget proposal. I feel it is a step in the right direction, but not enough to meet the needs of our veterans in El Paso and across the country. Like last year’s past, it includes legislative proposals that would impose additional fees on our nation’s veterans, such as a \$250 enrollment fee and increase in pharmaceutical co-payments from \$8 to \$15 for veterans who are deemed “higher income.” In El Paso county, a Priority 8 veteran who is considered “higher income” would be making as little as \$26,902. In today’s world, this is certainly not “high income,” and as in year’s past, I will work with my colleagues in a bipartisan fashion to remove this unfair proposal.

These issues are unfortunately just two examples of the over 140 programs the President has eliminated or substantially reduced in his budget request. As Congress moves forward with fiscal year 2007 funding bills, I will consider each of the programs carefully, and work for what is in the best interests of El Paso and the border region.

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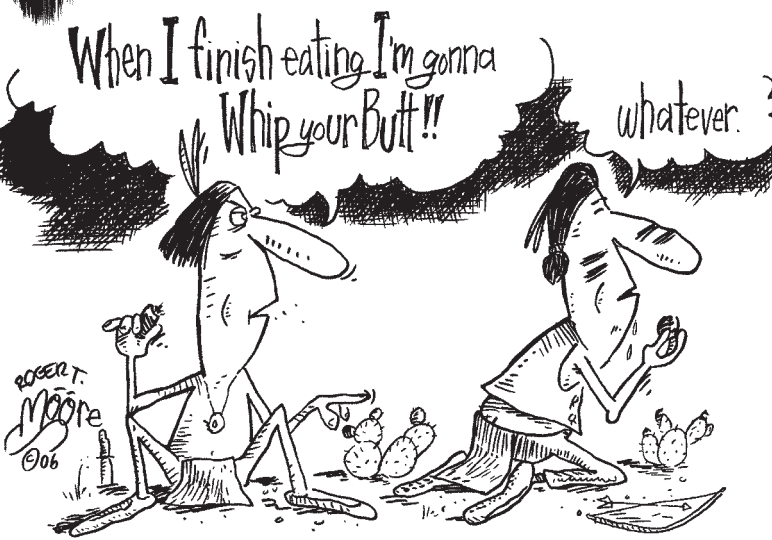
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Bus

From Page 1

and demonstration center while learning about the network’s philosophy, critical viewing techniques and programming information.

“I’ve been doing this for about two and a half years,” says Heath Neiderer, C-SPAN Marketing Rep. “Over the last two years, due to the Iraq war, a lot of the younger adults are more involved and are more informed. And that’s good. I think they understand that our network is a little different after they see our presentation.”

The 15-minute presentation, given to students 12 at a time, touches on C-SPAN’s commercial-free coverage of the United States’ House of Representatives and Senate and how they are funded as a public service by the cable industry.

“If it wasn’t for the cable industry, we wouldn’t be here,” Neiderer says. “Our gavel-to-gavel coverage tells a lot

of what we’re trying to do. When students turn 18, C-SPAN is a great way for them to follow politicians that go to Washington, D.C. After all they represent them and they spend their money.”

Montwood history teacher Carlos Canales was glad students were encouraged to stay informed.

“I think this has to appeal to students,” he says. “Math and science are important but so is history and government. Especially with today’s current events, students need to get informed and get involved. C-SPAN is a good tool for them to do just that.”

And although Montwood senior Davey Aves was quite impressed with all that happens behind the scenes for us to get the news, he does agree young adults his age need to stay on top of current events.

“It makes me want to see C-SPAN more often so I can be more informed than what I am now,” he says. “I just catch bits here and there. But they say it’s gavel to gavel coverage, so I’m getting left out of the loop quite a bit.”



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

**AN INSIDER’S VIEW — The 45-foot C-SPAN made a stop at Montwood High School on Feb. 7.**

Briefs

From Page 1

Program theme “Be Brilliant.” Teams were encouraged to tap into their inner genius and think outside the cookie box, said spokesman Laura Villarreal, since Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande focuses on increasing girl’s interest STEM — science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The creations — including the Eiffel Tower, a working Merry-Go-Round and a windmill — will be displayed at Sunland Park Mall through Feb. 19. Creations are located on the lower level of the mall, right outside Foley’s department store. Cookie Box Creations 2006 will conclude with a reception on Sunday, Feb. 19 from 4-6 p.m. The People’s Choice Award and Judge’s Awards will be announced. The Girl Scouts are still selling *full* boxes of cookies, too. Call 566-1558 to order.

■ Landscaping seminars are be-

ing offered by the Texas Cooperative Extension, 1030 N. Zaragosa, Ste. A to assist residents in taking advantage of the El Paso Water Utilities Turf Rebate program. Covered will be turf removal, selection of water-smart plants, and landscape design. Seminars will be March 4, March 11 and March 18, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or April 8, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment. Fee is \$35 per person. Call 859-77225 to register by Friday, March 3. Class sizes are limited, early registration is recommended.

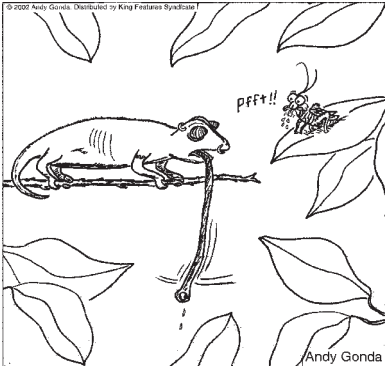
■ All mothers and daughters of El Dorado High School will host a Girls - In - Charge Conference on Feb. 18 from 8 a.m. to noon to learn about career opportunities. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Pat Davis, who overcame severe obstacles to become a physician. Other guest speakers include UTEP President Diana Natalicio, Gloria Gonzalez-Graells of Crime Victims Service and Claudia Vasquez from the District Attorney’s Office. Sessions on art, business, education, athletics,

military, medicine, politics, media, motherhood, cancer, and finance will be offered. The conference is free and open to all female students and their mothers or guardians and female sibling. Call Monica Bustillos at 937-3235 or Sylvia Johnson at 937-3211 for more information.

■ Navy Seaman Apprentice Rene Aguirre, son of Cecilia and Lorenzo Aguirre of El Paso County, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. undergoing eight-weeks of intensive training in survival, naval customs, and emergency medicine as well as physical fitness. Aguirre is a 2002 graduate of Socorro High School of El Paso, Texas.

■ Canutillo Elementary School announced recently that Best Buy awarded a \$2,500 tech award to the school to support its efforts in integrating interactive technology into the curriculum, according to Kim Guzman. The grant funds will be used to enhance CES’s math program. “CES is producing math vignettes by fourth graders for other students. The films will be used in the classroom to teach students different math concepts,” said Susan Smith, lead technology teacher at Canutillo ES. “The funds from Best Buy will be used to buy an iMac computer, video camera, and tripod for use in CES’s production studio,” she added. Best Buy started tech in October 2003, to reward schools that creatively integrate interactive technology into their curricula. All accredited, public and private nonprofit elementary, middle and secondary schools located within 50 miles of a Best Buy store were eligible to apply. Awards of \$2500 were given nationwide to nearly 1,200 schools to sustain or enhance existing educational programs.

■ There are many types of credit scores developed by companies, credit reporting agencies, even lenders. Learn more about your credit scores and how they are calculated with “Your Credit Scores,” from the Consumer Federation of America and Fair Isaac Corporation. This publication costs \$1. For your copy, call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256 and ask for Item 313N, send your name, address, and a check or money order for \$1 to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 313N, Pueblo, CO 81009 or visit <http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov> to order online or to read or print out this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.



Gunnar had a decision to make: Face starvation or lose the tongue stud.

Tornillo Independent School District

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance

Governmental Funds

For the Year Ended August 31, 2005

Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:			
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 1,015,229	\$ 119,569	\$ 1,134,798
5800 State Program Revenues	7,482,409	874,422	8,356,831
5900 Federal Program Revenues	532,582	1,474,824	2,007,406
5020 Total Revenues	9,030,220	2,468,815	11,499,035
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
0011 Instruction	3,657,221	1,308,752	4,965,973
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	38,393	95,994	134,387
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	25,945	80,872	106,817
0021 Instructional Leadership	99,256	—	99,256
0023 School Leadership	440,654	2,550	443,204
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	75,816	1,394	77,210
0033 Health Services	5,716	82,170	87,886
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	297,153	3,364	300,517
0035 Food Services	449,411	22,311	471,722
0036 Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	285,734	—	285,734
0041 General Administration	463,813	2,537	466,350
0051 Plant Maintenance and Operations	963,896	8,663	972,559
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	138,163	2,790	140,953
0053 Data Processing Services	340,965	35,265	376,230
0061 Community Services	34,598	—	34,598
Debt Service:			
0071 Debt Service - Principal on long-term debt	23,913	298,000	321,913
0072 Debt Service - Interest on long-term debt	1,406	470,885	472,291
0073 Debt Service -Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	—	285,600	285,600
Capital Outlay:			
0081 Facilities Aquisition and Construction	66,300	8,700	75,000
Intergovernmental:			
0093 Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	—	26,569	26,569
6030 Total Expenditures	7,408,353	2,736,416	10,144,769
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	1,621,867	(267,601)	1,354,266
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
7911 Capital-related Debt Issued (Regular Bonds)	—	4,339,997	4,339,997
7915 Transfers In	291,645	49,433	341,078
7916 Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds	—	222,586	222,586
8911 Transfers Out (Uses)	(341,078)	—	(341,078)
8949 Other (Uses)	—	(4,340,000)	(4,340,000)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(49,433)	272,016	222,583
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	1,572,434	4,415	1,576,849
0100 Fund Balance — September 1 (Beginning)	3,838,540	50,691	3,889,231
1300 Prior period adjustment	(8,059)	8,059	—
3000 Fund Balance — August 31 (Ending)	\$ 5,402,915	\$ 63,165	\$ 5,466,080



SEISD kids getting the message – school attendance is a good thing

By Phillip Cortez  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Whether it is through a public service announcement, a good friend, a teacher or a loving parent, students everywhere are reminded how important it is for them to go to school. In San Elizario, this is a message sent to every student and parent in the district, and based on state and regional averages,

students and parents are not only listening to the message, they’re taking it very seriously. For the last five years, San Elizario ISD has made it a goal in the District Improvement Plan that it reaches an Average Daily Attendance (ADA) of 97 percent. And for the last five years, the district has met or exceeded that goal. For the 2004-2005 school year, the district posted a 97.43 ADA, according to PEIMS Coordinator Melissa Urenda. In fact, the 97.43 per-

cent was the highest ADA percentage the district has been able to attain in the last 10 years. “The achievement of having a consistently high ADA, as SEISD has done, is important primarily because it allows us to have access to our students in our classrooms in order for our teachers to provide instruction for them to learn — an educational institution’s primary focus,” said Dr. Mike Quatrini, Superintendent of San Elizario Schools.

“The secondary benefit, but one that is vital for a district to ensure we have the resources necessary for that instruction, is that the higher the ADA is for the district, the higher the monies received by the state will be.” While districts receive ADA monies from the state, San Elizario ISD has made sure that the reward also goes back to the campuses, thanks to an incentive program implemented at the start of the 2000-2001 school year. SEISD Finance Director Larry Worrell and Urenda looked at each campus’ monthly ADA averages and set a percentage goal for that campus. At the end of each semester, campuses exceeding the goal would earn \$1000 for every percentage point above the set percentage goal. In return, campuses would be able to take that money and use it for student incentives or for other campus programs. The campus with the highest ADA for each semester would earn \$3,000 for student incentives and campus programs. Sambrano Elementary posted the highest ADA percentage last fall with a 97.78 percent. The incentive program is a big rea-

son why the district has been able to consistently stay well above regional and state ADA averages. For example, in 2003-2004, the latest year in which attendance statistics are available through TEA, San Elizario ISD posted a 97 percent ADA compared to 95.7 percent for the region and 95.7 percent for the state. According to SEISD truant officer Joe Galvan, kids are simply getting the message. “It’s sinking in that if they have to go to court (for not attending classes) they have to pay a fine,” Galvan said. “The state says that your child must be in school and if they aren’t, students must suffer the consequences.” According to Galvan, he attends meetings held by the campuses that include parents, teachers, and even Judge Ruben Lujan, who presides over truancy cases for students in San Elizario and neighboring school districts. This school year, every campus will try to meet or exceed 97 percent, which essentially raises the bar for the district to go above last year’s 97.43 percent mark.

Four Clint High athletes named to Academic All-State

By Laura Cade  
Special to the Courier

CLINT — The Texas High School Coaches Association has named four Clint High School senior football players to the Academic All-State Football Team: Ryan Brem, 1st Team; Paul Sosa, 2nd Team; Saul Adame and Fernie Muñoz, Honorable Mention. These young athletes were noted for their performance in the classroom as well as on the football field. Ryan Brem, who holds an impressive 99 GPA, is planning for a degree in business. Paul Sosa holds a 96 GPA and would like to become a marine biologist. Saul Adame holds a 95 GPA and will attend UTEP

to pursue a degree in accounting. Fernie Muñoz holds a 94 GPA and plans to pursue a business degree specializing in hotel management. “It’s always an honor when we have athletes being recognized in the academics as well as the athletic fields. This opens up more opportunities for these young men in applying for scholarships. I’m very proud of them and I just hope they can keep that GPA throughout their senior year,” says Rosvel Martinez, Clint High School Head Football Coach. Coach Martinez presented each

with a trophy and a certificate during the Clint High School Football Banquet Feb. 4. The Texas High School Coaches Association selects the Class 4-A Academic All-State Football team for 2005-2006 based on a point system that awards points for GPA, class rank and SAT and ACT score. Student athletes are required to meet certain criteria to be nominated: 1) overall GPA of 92 or above; 2) Be a member of the team in good standing at the time of nomination; 3) Be of good moral character.



— Photo courtesy Clint ISD

STRONG AND SMART — Fernie Muñoz, Paul Sosa, Ryan Brem, and Saul Adame.

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BELIEVE

Public Hearing  
Anthony Independent School District

2006 — 2007 School Year Calendar

The Anthony Independent School District intends to apply for a waiver of the prohibition concerning the date of the first day of instruction for students for the 2006 — 2007 school year. Anthony Independent School District intends to begin instruction for students for the 2006 — 2007 school year on Monday, August 14, 2006, which is earlier than the state mandated date.

A public hearing to discuss the first day of instruction for students for the 2006 — 2007 school year will be held as follows:

Date: February 21, 2006  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Site: Anthony ISD Board Room  
610 Sixth Street  
Anthony, Texas 79821

For more information, please call Central Office at 886-6500.

Junta Publica  
Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony

Calendario Escolar de 2006 — 2007

El Distrito Escolar Independiente de Anthony está proporcionando un permiso para aplicar al estado y poder cambiar la fecha de comienzo del año escolar 2006 — 2007. El distrito tiene intención de comenzar el primer día de instrucción el lunes, 14 de agosto del 2006, fecha que es antes requerida por el estado.

El propósito de esta junta publica para la comunidad, sera discutir el primer día de instruccion para el año escolar 2006 — 2007, el 21 de febrero del 2006 a las 6:00 p.m. en el Salon de Conferencias del Consejo Directivo, ubicado en 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, TX, 79821.

Para mas información favor de llamar a la Oficina Central al numero 886-6500.

WTCC: 02-16-06











Social Security Q&A

By Ray Vigil

*Q: I am 58 years old and my husband died just before Thanksgiving at age 65. He was still working at the time of his death, and I will be getting a small pension from his employer. I only work part-time now and it may be difficult for me to find a full-time job. What is the earliest age that I would be eligible for widow's benefits?*

A: As a widow, you can receive benefits from Social Security as early as age 60, as early as age 50 if you are disabled, or at any age if you are

taking care of a child who is under age 16 or disabled and receiving Social Security benefits.

*Q: My brother-in-law and I both get Supplemental Security Income (SSI) because of disabilities. His amount went up to \$603 a month this year but mine is a lot less. My disability occurred before his and is at least as severe. Why am I getting less?*

A: The severity of your disability is considered when determining whether you are disabled for SSI pur-

poses, but it is not a factor in calculating the benefit amount you receive. SSI benefits are reduced when you receive other income or support from another person. Also, if you live in a household where you're not paying your share of the rent and bills, your amount will be reduced. This is because SSI is a needs-based program.

For more information visit your local Security office, see [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov) or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

Principal

From Page 1

grown at all grade levels. In fact, the growth in grades 7-12 constitutes approximately 40 percent of the overall growth," she said.

With passage of the recent bond election, funds will be available to make the two middle school campuses equitable and comparable including adding classrooms, a library, and other amenities to Alderete Middle School.

"Annette brings a wealth of experience to her new position. She has

taught at the high school level, was coordinator of career and technology programs, and gained valuable knowledge as an elementary school principal. She understands what a middle school has to do to prepare students for high school," said Dr. Padilla.

Brigham will remain principal of Childress ES through May. Meanwhile, campus personnel will be asked to be a part of the process to find her replacement. "We appreciate the accomplishments at that campus, and we want the faculty and staff to be involved in the process for selecting their next principal," said Dr. Padilla.

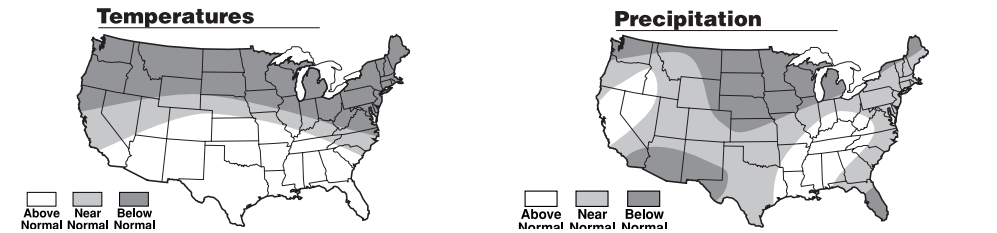
7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX

AccuWeather.com®

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Mostly sunny	Patchy clouds	Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Sunny intervals
68°	46°	69° 44°	59° 43°	64° 41°	67° 40°	66° 38°	64° 35°
RealFeel 68°	RealFeel 40°	RealFeel 67° 38°	RealFeel 54° 36°	RealFeel 61° 33°	RealFeel 69° 42°	RealFeel 72° 34°	RealFeel 64° 37°

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WEATHER TRENDS THIS WEEK



IN THE SKY

Sun	Rise	Set	Moon	Rise	Set	Last	New
Thu.	6:47 a.m.	5:53 p.m.	Thu.	9:12 p.m.	8:33 a.m.		
Fri.	6:46 a.m.	5:54 p.m.	Fri.	10:07 p.m.	8:58 a.m.	2/21	2/27
Sat.	6:45 a.m.	5:55 p.m.	Sat.	11:05 p.m.	9:24 a.m.	First	Full
Sun.	6:44 a.m.	5:55 p.m.	Sun.	none	9:54 a.m.		
Mon.	6:43 a.m.	5:56 p.m.	Mon.	12:06 a.m.	10:29 a.m.	3/6	3/14
Tues.	6:42 a.m.	5:57 p.m.	Tues.	1:10 a.m.	11:11 a.m.		
Wed.	6:41 a.m.	5:58 p.m.	Wed.	2:15 a.m.	12:03 p.m.		

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2006

REGIONAL CITIES

	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
City	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Abilene, TX	68	34	s	47	30	sh	36	31	r	45	35	r
Albuquerque, NM	56	28	s	55	34	pc	55	35	pc	58	33	pc
Amarillo, TX	46	19	pc	40	21	sf	40	20	i	49	28	r
Austin, TX	80	48	pc	54	41	sh	43	43	r	46	43	r
Brownsville, TX	82	67	pc	82	64	pc	67	60	sh	72	61	sh
Dodge City, KS	28	7	pc	22	12	s	26	11	c	36	22	c
Jackson, MS	71	53	sh	58	44	sh	44	40	sh	50	40	r
Laredo, TX	89	62	pc	72	52	pc	54	44	sh	57	54	sh
Little Rock, AR	72	41	sh	43	30	c	31	28	sn	42	26	r
Lubbock, TX	61	30	s	38	32	i	38	28	r	51	32	r
Memphis, TN	71	42	sh	48	32	pc	33	30	sn	42	31	r
Midland, TX	76	34	s	55	32	sh	44	34	r	48	38	r
Pueblo, CO	36	10	sf	22	10	c	34	12	pc	48	19	c
Roswell, NM	73	33	s	55	32	pc	48	30	pc	60	34	s
St. Louis, MO	56	27	sh	29	17	sf	24	18	sf	40	20	c
San Antonio, TX	80	55	pc	58	42	sh	50	42	sh	51	44	sh
Texarkana, AR	75	45	pc	49	35	sh	35	35	r	45	35	r
Waco, TX	74	47	pc	48	39	sh	44	38	r	45	39	r
Wichita, KS	42	18	c	21	15	pc	21	16	pc	35	21	c

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

U.S. CITIES

	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
City	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Atlanta	66	47	pc	64	41	sh	52	35	sh	53	35	c
Boston	49	40	c	47	20	r	28	15	pc	27	23	pc
Chicago	38	18	r	20	7	sf	18	8	pc	24	12	pc
Denver	20	3	sn	12	6	sn	26	10	pc	41	21	c
Detroit	44	25	r	28	14	sf	22	14	sf	28	18	sf
Houston	79	58	pc	60	44	sh	50	42	sh	48	39	r
Indianapolis	55	29	r	31	15	sf	23	14	c	32	19	c
Kansas City	36	13	sn	20	13	pc	18	14	pc	34	18	c
Los Angeles	61	45	pc	64	47	pc	64	50	pc	62	48	c
Miami	78	67	sh	80	66	pc	80	63	s	81	66	s
Minneapolis	14	0	sn	2	-4	pc	2	0	c	10	5	c
New Orleans	78	59	pc	73	56	c	57	51	sh	60	53	c
New York City	48	38	pc	51	29	r	35	21	pc	29	27	pc
Omaha	20	7	sn	12	7	c	12	7	pc	24	14	c
Phoenix	69	48	s	71	49	pc	75	48	pc	72	49	pc
San Francisco	55	41	pc	53	46	sh	52	45	r	55	45	sh
Seattle	39	24	pc	37	22	pc	42	32	pc	44	34	pc
Washington	61	46	pc	58	26	r	38	20	pc	32	28	pc

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