



NEWSBRIEFS

Courier closed

The *West Texas County Courier* will publish two editions early. The October 16 and October 23, 2008 issues will go to press on Tuesday, October 7, 2008. All material for these publications must be submitted to the *Courier* no later than Friday, October 3, 2008. The *Courier* office will close beginning Tuesday, October 7, 2008. The office will open again on Monday, October 27, 2008.

Education conference

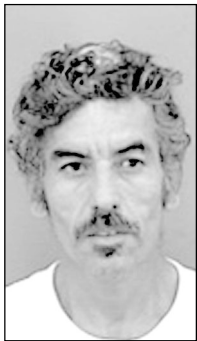
UTEP College of Education will be host of the fourth annual A Better Beginning Conference for novice teachers from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Sept. 27, in the College of Education. The conference is open to teachers with zero to three years experience. Topics include lesson planning, time management, school resources, assessment and grading, engaging parents and much more. The keynote speaker is Candelario Barragan, a recipient of the 2007 Milken Family Foundation's National Education Award. He will speak at 11 a.m. in Union Building East, Tomás Rivera Conference Center. Information: <http://eduprojects.utep.edu/tne/>.

Wind symphony

The UTEP Wind Symphony will perform its first concert of the season at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 25, Fox Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall. The concert will include works by William Schuman, John Philip Sousa, Richard Wagner and Joseph Spaniola. Tickets are \$5 for general admission, \$3 for non-UTEP students, and free for UTEP faculty, staff and students. Information: Ron Hufstader, rhufstad@utep.edu.

Manhunt

The Sheriff's Office Sex Crime Unit is looking for Luis Lopez Rojas. He some-



times uses only Luis Lopez. In March 2008, Sheriff's Deputies were called to a residence in San Elizario, TX. Rojas was accused of sexually assaulting his three granddaughters. An arrest warrant has been issued for the apprehension of Rojas. The charges are 2 counts of Aggravated Sexual Assault on a Child (\$300,000 combined bonds) & Indecency with a Child (\$75,000 bond). Rojas has been deported in the past for a narcotics trafficking felony conviction and being in the United States Illegally. Rojas is known to run from law enforcement. Recent information received indicates Rojas has altered his physical appearance by shaving his mustache and he has dyed his hair

See BRIEFS, Page 5

We're told that money isn't everything. The way things are going, it soon won't be anything.

— Quips & Quotes

Freshman receives Judges Coin



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

HIGH MARKS FOR CHAVEZ — The Socorro NJROTC Unarmed Drill Team, Armed Drill Team and Color Guard participated in The City of Socorro 10th Annual United Inter-Tribal Nations Art and Craft Festival Drill Meet, which honored America's Returning Wounded Warriors. Several members of the America's Returning Wounded Warriors from Fort Bliss were there to judge the drill exhibition. Each team of the three Socorro teams won a trophy and several cadets won personal medals for their individual performance. One of the newest cadets Seaman Recruit Daletth Chavez was awarded the Secretary of Defense Gates Challenge Coin as the "Judges Choice" for her overall quality performance. She salutes one of the judges above. Her achievement is significant considering that she has only been with the NJROTC program for a month this year as a freshman. This coin is the third highest rated coin of its type in the nation only junior to the President's and Vice President's coins of the United States.

— Contributed by Irma Flores

Martínez in Cambridge Who's Who

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier

Evangelina G. Martínez, Bilingual Kindergarten Teacher at Deanna Davenport Elementary School in the Canutillo Independent School District, has been recognized as a VIP Member by Cambridge Who's Who for showing dedication, leadership and excellence in all aspects of bilingual education.

With an impressive background of more than 43 years of professional experience, Martínez specializes in teaching reading and writing in both Spanish and English. At her current post, she is charged with teaching English as a second language to kindergarten students. She has also trained district professionals and teachers. A recipient of the Teacher of the Year Award from the Gadsden Independent School District and the Canutillo Independent School District, Martínez attributes her success to the support she receives from her family and mentors.

Martínez received her Master's Degree from New Mexico State University in 1983 and her Bachelor of Arts from Western New Mexico University. Recently, she was certified in gifted and talented education. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and the Rio Grande Women's Education Association.

Twice recognized in Who's Who Among American Teachers, Martínez is especially proud to have been the first member of her family to complete college.



Evangelina Martínez

Lara named Principal of the Year

By Rudy Barreda
Special to the Courier

Tornillo Junior High Principal Ruth Lara has been selected to represent the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals as a Region 19 Outstanding Principal of the Year. TASSP recognizes outstanding principals and assistant principals from the twenty region Education Service Centers in the state. School administrators are nominated and chosen by their peers within their regions. Nominations are based upon exemplary performance and outstanding leadership. As a Region 19 winner, Lara is eligible to compete for the state title of the Texas Principal of the Year.

Lara has been principal of Tornillo Junior High since February, 2006. Prior to taking over the principalship at TJH, she was the Director of Campus Support for Tornillo ISD. She began her teaching career at Bel Air High School in Ysleta ISD in 1997. Under Lara's leadership, Tornillo Junior High was rated "Recognized" by the Texas Education Agency in both 2007 and 2008.

Lara attended UTEP and earned a Bachelor's degree in History. She then earned a Masters of Education in Educational Leadership.

Each of the region winners will be recognized during the Opening General Session of the annual TASSP Summer Workshop, June 10, 2009, at the Austin Convention Center. They will be presented an award and recognized in a commemorative booklet entitled Texas Principals, Texas Heroes.



Ruth Lara

Physicians say children should be vaccinated for flu

By Brent Annear
Special to the Courier

The physicians of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) have an important message for parents as flu season approaches: Vaccinate your child against the flu regardless of whether he or she has chronic health issues or is perfectly healthy. This year, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) newly recommends all healthy children aged 6 months through 18 years be vaccinated, as well as children with chronic health conditions such as asthma and heart disease.

“Medicine has learned that the more people you safely vaccinate against disease, the greater likelihood of preventing anyone from contracting that disease,” says Melissa Garretson, MD, Fort Worth, a Fort Worth pediatrician and advisor to TMA’s Be Wise — ImmunizeSM vaccination advocacy program.

The CDC estimates that more than 20,000 children younger than 5 years old are hospitalized annually because

of the flu.

People need flu shots every year because the vaccination targets the strains expected to cause the most illness during the upcoming flu season. People, especially those in higher-risk categories, can begin receiving the flu vaccine as early as September. Flu vaccinations continue through peak flu season, into the early months of 2009.

“Ensuring children receive a flu vaccine — and those for other vaccine-preventable diseases — is a simple way to protect their health,” says Dr. Garretson, summing up the mission of TMA’s Be Wise — Immunize program. TMA physicians and volunteers created the program to ensure children are vaccinated against potentially deadly diseases, such as whooping cough and chicken pox.

In August, volunteers from TMA’s Be Wise — Immunize program vaccinated more than 5,700 Texas children at free or low-cost back-to-school vaccination clinics. Nearly 17,200 shots were given to kids in clinics across the state.

“The medical community worked hard

throughout August to ensure as many children as possible children received their vaccinations to help them stay safe and healthy,” says Dr. Garretson.

TMA’s and Texas families’ efforts are paying off for the state, which traditionally ranks dismally among the 50 states in vaccination rates. Earlier this month, the CDC had good news for Texans. The CDC’s new 2007

data showed Texas increased to a 77.3 percent vaccination rate. The 3.5-percent increase over 2006 moved Texas up to a ranking of 22nd in the nation, according to the CDC’s National Immunization Survey.

“While I’m excited that the Texas immunization ranking has improved, we need to remember that helping Texas families ‘Be Wise’ about the

importance of timely vaccinations for their children is a long-term commitment,” says Dr. Garretson.

TMA started its Be Wise program only four years ago. Since its inception, the program has administered more than 118,000 shots. Be Wise also provides free educational materials in addition to conducting immunization clinics.



Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

Middle income Americans deserve better treatment

Hola mi gente. I know that all of you reading this are very much aware that our financial markets have seen some tumultuous days recently. Now that the rich boys on Wall Street are in a pinch, it looks like people are getting serious about our financial crisis.

I find it very shortsighted that our economic health is measured by the ups and downs of the stock market. Sure the problems that cause downturns there affect the economics throughout the nation and world.

The market will never be a true indicator of how the majority of Americans are doing. After all, we were all doing much worse economically many months ago. It could have been very easy for a so called expert to look at the financial hardships of many of us and predict that things are not going in the right direction. While it is true that complaints flow down

the chain of command, economic misery, if left uncorrected, will eventually find its way upward. That is the power of the middle class.

The federal government is looking at upwards of a trillion dollar cost to try and reverse the damage done to the economy. We incurred this damage through the undisciplined sale of homes to marginal applicants. It used to be that the feds made it hard for mortgages to be sold like that. Without the previous discipline, the housing industry jumped on middle income Americans and marketed mortgages with no regards for the consequences.

Here in Texas, we have our own micro housing crisis. In the Rio Grande Valley and in the Houston area, thousands have had their homes damaged or demolished by hurricanes and floods. The fact that so much money is needed to fix the national banking crisis (which could

have been prevented by proper oversight) will make it much harder for our neighbors down by the gulf to receive adequate relief. They may experience difficulties similar to those suffered by the victims of Hurricane Katrina; some victims are still in cramped mobile homes. I hope not.

I wish the federal government and the wealthy corporations would treat our middle income Americans better. We have had enough Enrons, record oil profits, tainted Chinese toys and food, and marginal mortgages. The wealthy should realize that without a healthy middle income class, it is their wealth that will diminish.

This may be the year that changes the lives of an entire generation; similar to the events which occurred in 1929 resulting in the Great Depression. We will survive; that I have no doubt.

Gracias, mi gente, and I remain your friend and public servant, Chente por la gente.

Public Notice TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

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Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

House passes energy bill

Last week, I joined a majority in the U.S. Representatives in passing H.R. 6899, the Comprehensive American Energy Security and Consumer Protection Act. This historic measure repeals tax breaks for large oil companies, and invests in renewable energy sources to reduce America’s dependence on foreign oil. The bill passed by a vote of 236–189.

Many El Paso families have been struggling to cope with high fuel and food costs in the current economic environment and this bill will help bring much needed relief. This important legislation strikes a balance between Republican and Democratic proposals, and includes measures to expand domestic drilling while also investing in renewable energy, and other measures to help lower prices at the pump. Americans want real solutions to the current energy crisis, and this bill is major step in the right direction.

issued in 1998 and 1999 in the Gulf of Mexico that are costing taxpayers billions of dollars. The revenue from these measures will help pay for critical investments in renewable energy, and will lay the foundation for millions of new innovative “green” jobs in the United States.

It is imperative that we reduce our dependence on foreign sources of energy such as oil, and this measure will help achieve this goal by extending and expanding tax incentives for renewable energy (such solar and wind) and fuel from America’s heartland to meet energy needs, as well as for plug-in hybrid cars, and energy efficient homes. I urged the House leadership to extend these important tax credits for renewable energy. The bill also requires utility companies to generate 15 percent of electricity from renewable sources — such as wind power, biomass, geothermal and solar energy — by 2020, which will save American consumers approximately \$13-18 billion and reduce dangerous global warming emissions.

The bill will also help increase U.S. oil production by expanding domestic drilling both offshore and on land. The compromise bill permits leasing between 50 and 100 miles offshore if a state ‘opts-in’ to allow leasing off its coastline by enacting a state law. The House also incorporated environmental protections to ensure responsible use of these new drilling

sites. National monuments and national marine sanctuaries are permanently withdrawn from oil and gas leasing. All leasing activities must protect the coastal, marine and human environment of the state coastal zones and the Outer Continental Shelf.

It is interesting to note that the United States possess less than 3 percent of the world’s oil reserves, yet our country consumes approximately 25 percent of the world’s entire energy supply. The price of oil will continue to rise as countries such as China and India continue to grow and consume more of the world’s limited supply of oil. Our country cannot afford to compete for the same scarce resource. For this reason, this legislation makes significant investments in renewable energy and provides incentives to American businesses and consumers to reduce their reliance on oil.

H.R. 6899 will also help bring immediate relief at the gas pump by temporarily releasing nearly 10 percent of the oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR), and replacing it later with heavier, cheaper crude oil.

This comprehensive strategy to expand domestic production while investing in renewable energy sources is a balanced approach to ensure America will have the ability to meet its growing energy needs in the years ahead.

1973
35
YEARS
2008

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:
Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The Courier reserves the right not to print letters to the editor or other submitted materials it considers inappropriate.


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Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

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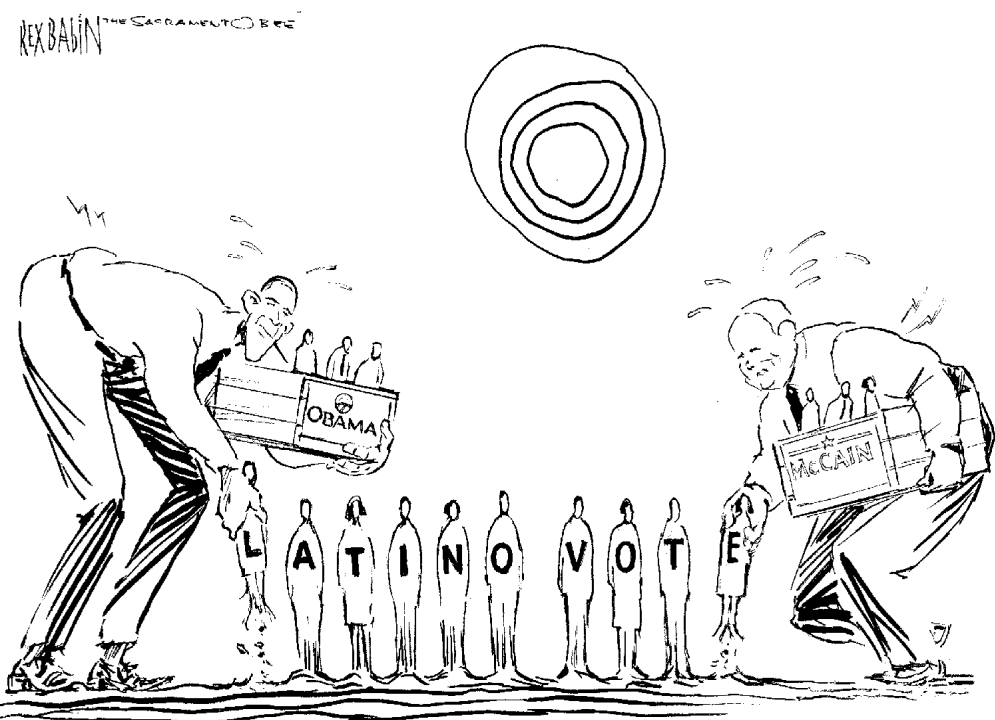
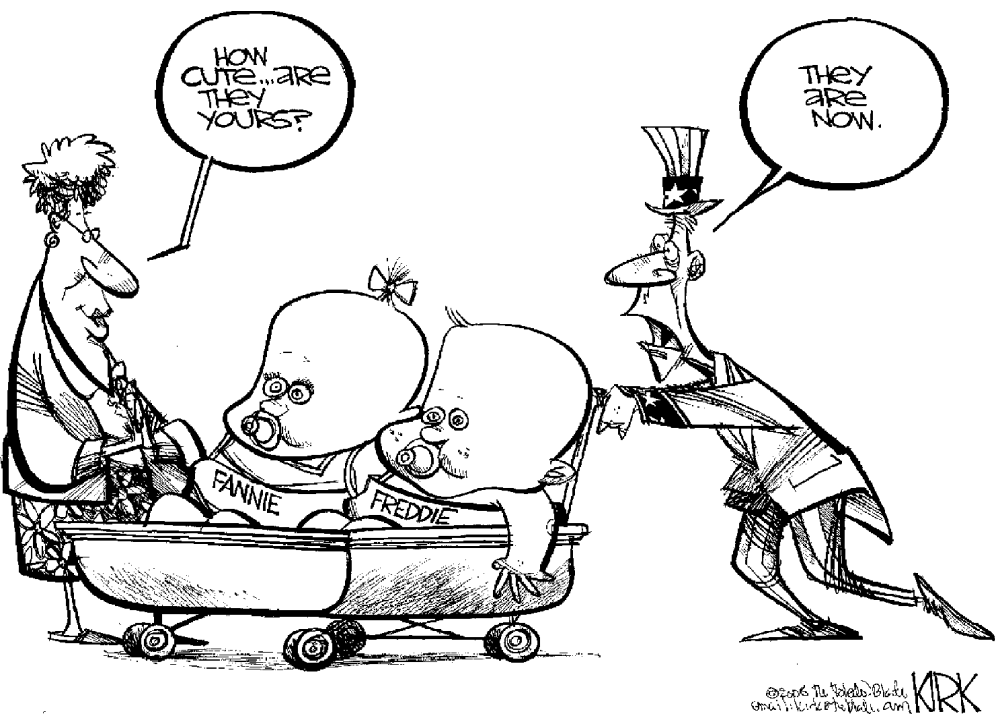
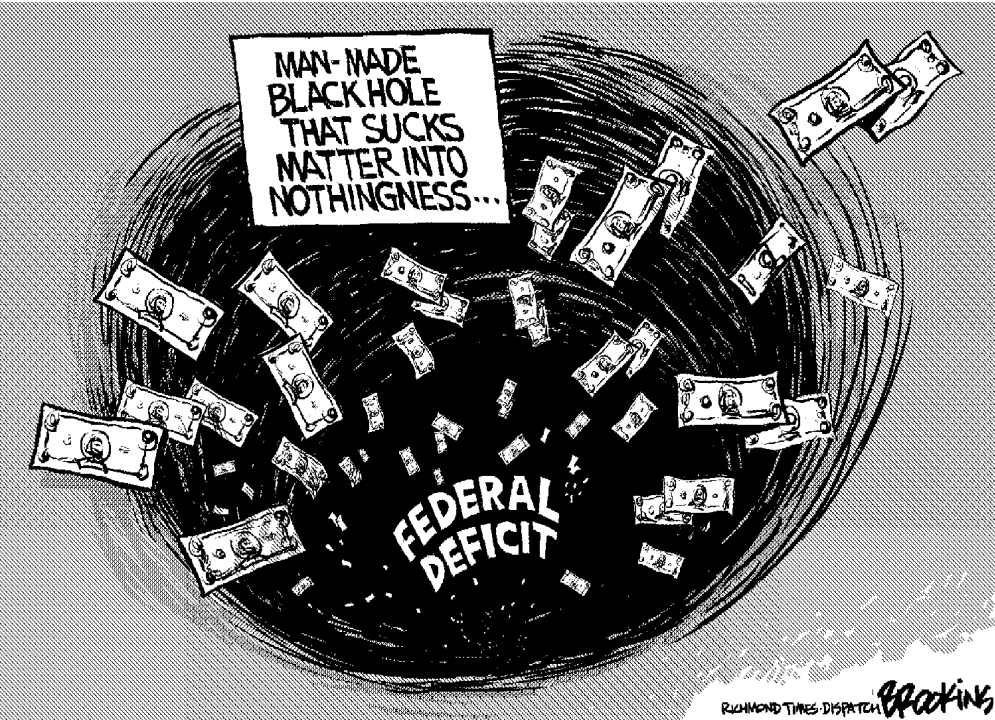
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What's up, doc? By Albert Balesh, M.D.

HIV/AIDS by the numbers

The XVII International AIDS Conference was held in Mexico City in early August 2008, and, while that clinical showcase was no longer a premier venue for dissemination of information on current, cutting-edge research being done in the field, it nonetheless served as a vehicle for spreading the word internationally and acting as a barometer of the progress in the fight against this viral plague of modern times. A total of 20,716 delegates were present at the conference, with nearly half

Europe, particularly Russia and the Ukraine, now lays claim to some of the largest HIV epidemics. Decreased availability of methadone and clean syringes to injection-drug users would appear to account for the latter.

The pharmacological arsenal in the fight against HIV/AIDS has grown considerably over the years, and, while no magic bullet currently exists, the costs of drug development continue to rise, and there is no AIDS vaccine on the

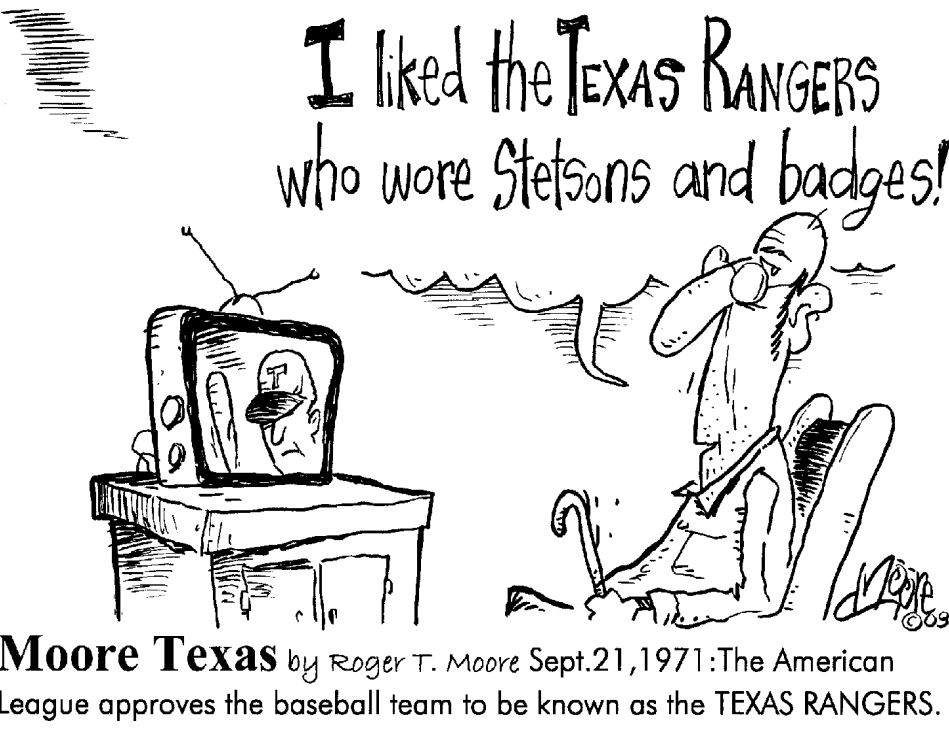
... an estimated 33 million people live with HIV worldwide, and 2.7 million of them became infected in 2007...

current horizon, antiretroviral therapy continues to reduce viral loads to nondetectable levels in many of the afflicted and guarantee heretofore unheard of normal lives and life spans. Barriers to HIV/AIDS reduction and prevention in low- and middle-income countries still exist, however, as poverty, stigma, discrimination, and inadequate health care systems make the logistics of prevention and pharmacological treatment a proverbial distribution nightmare. Effective preventive interventions to encourage male circumcision, prevent mother-to-child transmission, and discourage multiple sexual partners are simply not in place in many areas hit hard by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Were that not enough, time and time again evidence has shown that antiretroviral therapy, while effective, is not reaching sufficient number of the afflicted. A case in point, although far from the only example, is sub-Saharan Africa, where 2.1 million people and 200,000 children were receiving antiretroviral medications in 2007. Those numbers sound encouraging, until it is realized that only 20% of the people know that they are infected, less than a third of the afflicted are receiving therapy, and only a third of infected pregnant women receive antiretroviral medications to prevent transmission to the child.

It appears that the fight against HIV/AIDS has made a considerable amount of progress, and clinical and epidemiological evidence demonstrates that with over 25 antiretroviral drugs currently on the market, scientists are making headway in what was once considered a lost cause. That is not to say, however, that the millions of new infections and deaths each year are acceptable, nor is a cure or vaccination for the syndrome imminent. There is still a long road to go, and the statistics presented at the conference were sobering. Currently, an estimated 33 million people live with HIV worldwide, and 2.7 million of them became infected in 2007, with a total of 2 million people dying from AIDS in that same year. No real surprises there, as the picture had always been glum. A silver lining, however, did appear, when it was announced at the conference that for the first time in recent years, fewer children (who currently account for about for about 15% of the infected population) and fewer adults are becoming infected by HIV, and fewer people are dying, than in previous years. Epidemics have stabilized for the most part in Africa, although pockets of increased infection continue to exist in nations such as Kenya, and Eastern

So, one might say that although progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS has, indeed, been made, the international medical and political communities still have their work cut out for them, before the XVIII International AIDS Conference convenes in Vienna in July 2010.

2008, Albert M. Balesh, M.D.
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Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore Sept. 21, 1971: The American League approves the baseball team to be known as the TEXAS RANGERS.

Briefs

From Page 1

black. It is also said Rojas is back in the U.S. and has been seen around San Elizario. Rojas is 54 years old, 5’7" tall and weighs 130 pounds. He has a tattoo of the Virgin Mary on his back that runs from his neck area all the way down to his lower back. He has a tattoo on either his right or left bicep of a drawing of his wife and the name “Rosa”. On his other arm, opposite to the drawing of his wife, he has another tattoo of a saint. Rojas also has a scar of the shape of a heart on his left chest area.

— Contributed by Deputy Jesus Tovar

Charter school

A new public charter school, Premier High School-El Paso, is open at 1035 Belvidere. The school addresses and serves students who need the following:

- Graduation recovery for students needing credit recovery and/or TAKS test preparation;
- Dropout recovery for students who have dropped out and are willing to come back to school to earn their high school diploma; and
- Accelerated learning for those students who want to be on a fast track to earn a high school diploma. Tuition is free. To inquire call (915) 581-4300 or parents can visit the school in person.

Crime Stoppers

A person or persons unknown committed an outrage against the citizens of El Paso by intentionally setting a school playground on fire, causing a tremendous amount of damage, and making this the “Crime of the Week.” On Wednesday, Aug. 20, at approximately 3:15 p.m., unidentified individuals intentionally set fire to the jungle gym at Edgemere Elementary School, located at 10300 Edgemere Boulevard on the east side. The fire spread rapidly and totally consumed both the jungle gym and the shade canopy above it. Investigators from the Fire Marshals office estimated the damages to be more than \$300,000. Unfortunately, it is the citizens of El Paso who will have to pay the bill for this outrageous incident. This is the third time this same school has been victimized by arson. Crime Stoppers, along with the El Paso Police Department, the El Paso Fire Department, and the Ysleta Independent School District Security Department are all joining together to ask the public for help in locating the subjects who committed this crime. There is no description of the individuals involved, so please try to remember if you saw any suspicious person or vehicle on the school campus, or nearby, on Wednesday, Aug. 20 after 3:00 p.m. Our community needs to work together to stop this type of travesty and bring the guilty party to justice. If you have any information at all about this crime, please call Crime Stoppers of El Paso at 566-TIPS (8477) or submit your tip online at www.crimestoppersofelpaso.org. You will remain anonymous and, if your tip leads to an arrest, you may earn a cash reward up to \$1,000.

Copyrights

Here’s a quick quiz. Which of these items could be covered by a copyright: A) one of your photos on a Web-based photo sharing site, B) your friend’s newly self-published play, C) an online video of a drive you took around town? If you answered all three, you’re correct. Copyright infringement has been in the news a lot lately, but it can be tricky to figure out what is and isn’t covered. To clear up some of the confusion, read Copyright Basics from the Library of Congress and the Federal Citizen Information Center. This informative brochure outlines what can and can’t be copyrighted and tells you how to register your own materials with the Copyright Office. For a copy, send your name, address, and a check or money order for \$1.00 to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 314R, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256, and ask for Item 314R. Have your credit card handy. Visit www.pueblo.gsa.gov to read or print this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

Listeria

It’s not something you hear about often, but listeria can be dangerous. It’s a bacteria that grows on food, even in the refrigerator, and you can’t see, smell, or

taste it. Pregnant women must be especially careful — if their unborn baby gets infected, they can go into early labor. To learn more, including a list of the foods that can harbor listeria and how to keep your kitchen safe, send for a free copy of the Listeria fact sheet from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Federal Citizen Information Center. To get a copy, send your name and address to the Federal Citizen Information Center, Dept. 602R, Pueblo, CO 81009. Or call toll-free 1 (888) 878-3256, and ask for Item 602R. Visit www.pueblo.gsa.gov to read or print this and hundreds of other FCIC publications for free.

Franchise seminar

Scholarships are available for UTEP’s Oct. 23–25 Franchise Management Certificate Program Seminar. The scholarships, which cover tuition and materials for the two-and-a-half day seminar, are available to applicants from the Paso del Norte region. Applications are available by calling the Franchise Center at 747-7729 and must be completed by Tuesday, Sept. 30. Information: www.organizations.utep.edu/fc.

English for adults

Adult English language learners now have the opportunity to learn English that relates directly to entry-level jobs in high-growth industries across Texas. A free course in this new program provides instruction in language, math, and computer applications specifically geared to the Health Service field. The course will be offered through the Socorro ISD Community Education beginning on Oct. 20 at 313 South Rio Vista. Students enrolling in the English for Health Services Course will participate in instruction for 10 hours per week for approximately six months. Also offered in the course are employability lessons in which participants can develop skills they will need to locate job openings and complete the application/interview process. Students will also learn how to access short-term job training programs leading to certification for entry-level positions in the health services field. Health Services is one of the fastest growing employment sectors, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. The Texas Workforce Commission estimates that some 6,000 new nursing aide, orderly, home health aide, medical assistant, and related jobs will be available per year in Texas through 2012. Interested individuals can attend an information session on Monday, Oct. 13 at 313 South Rio Vista from 12:45 to 2:45 p.m. For more information, call either Martha Serna or Rosanne Loya at 937-1700.

In the Navy

Many area recruits recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight-week program, they completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness. They are:

- Navy Seaman Jorge L. Lujan, son of Maria D. Estrada and Jorge L. Lujan of El Paso. Lujan is a 2008 graduate of Socorro High School.
- Navy Seaman Antonio Arango, a 2008 graduate of Socorro High School.
- Navy Seaman Apprentice Manuel J. Hernandez, a 2008 graduate of Montwood High School.
- Navy Seaman Recruit Ivan Acosta, son of Estella Acosta of El Paso. Acosta is a 2000 graduate of Montwood High School.
- Navy Seaman Recruit Bryan R. Poulin, son of Cresencia C. Gomez and Richird N. Poulin of El Paso. Poulin is a 2008 graduate of Montwood High School.
- Navy Seaman Apprentice Bianca M. Navarrette, daughter of Monica Kapadia and Abelardo Navarrette of El Paso. Navarrette is a 2008 graduate of Americas High School.
- Navy Seaman Crystal M. Garcia, daughter of Sylvia and Ricardo Garcia of Fabens. Garcia is a 2008 graduate of Fabens High School.
- Navy Constructionman Oscar U. Barbosa, son of Laura Atwell of Beaufort, S. C. and Jose L. Barbosa of El Paso. Barbosa is a 2008 graduate of Socorro High School.

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Maybe It Wasn’t That Heavy Shopping Bag.

Weakness On One Side May Mean A Stroke.

Recognizing the signs of stroke and acting fast may make a difference between life and death. Call 9-1-1 immediately if you experience one or more of these signs: sudden weakness especially on one side of the body; trouble speaking or understanding; dizziness, loss of balance; trouble seeing in one or both eyes; and severe headache with no known cause. New treatments can help reduce damage to the brain

but only in the first few hours after symptoms begin. Every minute counts.

To learn more about stroke, call the American Heart Association at 1-800-AHA-USA1 or visit us online at www.americanheart.org/tx

American Heart Association.

Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

9-1-1

HEART ATTACK & STROKE

Read the signs. | Raise a flag.

Notice of Public Hearing

Town of Anthony, Texas

Texas Community Development

Block Grant Program

Completion and Closeout of Project #726011

The Town of Anthony will conduct a public hearing to solicit the input and participation of its residents in its Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program project. Residents are encouraged to attend this meeting and voice opinions concerning the completion of a sewer system improvements project that has been carried out under TxCDBG/CD Contract No. 726011. Topics to be discussed will include the completed activities of the project, and the town’s implementation of the project, including location, general cost, and project benefits.

Location:Anthony Town Hall

Date:Monday, September 29, 2008

Time:5:00 p.m.

The Town of Anthony has a Citizen Participation Plan that provides for and encourages citizen participation at all stages of the Community Development Program; copies are available upon request. Individuals unable to attend this public hearing may submit their views at the Anthony Town Hall during regular hours.

Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; handicapped persons in need of special assistance for attending the hearings are encouraged to contact the Town Clerk by telephone at (915) 886-3944.

El publico en general está invitado a asistir a estas audiencias. La presentación y discusión del Programa de Desarrollo de la Comunidad del Estado de Texas se haran en español para aque las personas que asi lo deseen.

Art Franco

Mayor

Date Published:09/25/08

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



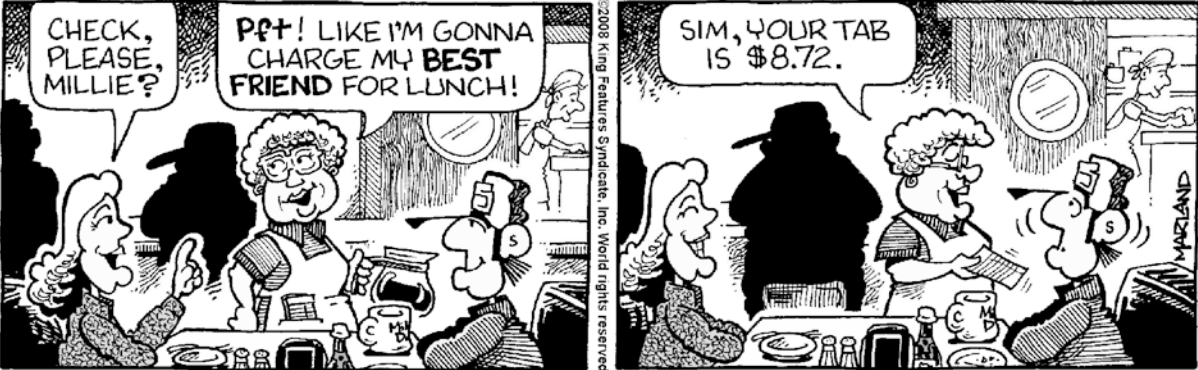
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Get the body politic back in shape

By Don Flood

While some have expressed concern about Gov. Sarah Palin’s level of experience, there is one issue — perhaps the transcendent issue of our age — where her preeminence is unquestioned.

It is the extraordinary weightiness of this issue that had many Americans reaching out to Palin for answers so soon after she took the national stage: How did she manage to get her figure back — at age 44 — only four months after giving birth to her *fifth child*?

I may be on shaky ground here, but I’m willing to wager that there hasn’t been a similar accomplishment from another vice-presidential candidate in our entire history.

And don’t start yapping about my being sexist here. If Sen. Joe Biden, the Democratic vice-presidential nominee, had regained his boyish figure four months after giving birth to his fifth child, the nation would be asking him the same question.

(According to his official campaign biography, Biden has not given birth to a single child. Nor did he win Miss Congeniality in the Miss Alaska pageant.)

To his credit, John McCain appears pretty fit himself, especially for age 72, though, like Biden, he also has yet to give birth. (Given the advancements of science that allow those in their 60s to give birth, there is still hope for McCain.)

What this means for the country is obvious. For the first time in history, our president and vice president could lead us in a national fitness class for both men and women.

(George Washington and John Adams tried to get one started, but the effort failed when both Martha Washington and Abigail Adams

both refused to don sexy exercise leotards for the “Sweating to the Oldies” video.)

A fitness class that could promise real results would be much more useful than the old business-as-usual discussion of the issues, which only turns people away from politics.

Why bore people with health care proposals when you can you can actually help people get healthier by leading a national fitness program?

Speaking about fitness and pageants, I’m sure many readers saw the item about the Rev. Antonio Rungi of Naples, Italy, planning a beauty pageant for nuns — Miss Sister 2008.

This is wrong on so many levels.

First off, it’s an online pageant. So we won’t get to see the nuns strut on stage and announce, “I’m Sister Mary Ellen representing the great convent of the Sisters of Divine Providence of Hoboken, New Jersey!”

(Cut to crowd of supporters madly waving “Go Sister Mary Ellen!” and “Mary Ellen for Miss Sister 2008: It’s Divine Will” posters.)

This will also mean no talent competition and no opportunity for a crowd-pleasing round of questions concerning matters of church doctrine.

Admittedly, a swimsuit competition would be a little tasteless — though probably necessary if you want Donald Trump to sponsor the show — but would it be so wrong to have the nuns model their habits?

At the least they should have some kind of fitness routine. Maybe John McCain and Sarah Palin could help judge.

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King Super Crossword

- STRICTLY SPEAKING ACROSS**

1 Summer stinger

5 Sailor's quaff

9 In the sack

13 Master, in Madras

18 "Dies _"

19 Melodious

McEntire

20 _ Valley, CA

21 Walked

confidently

22 Tenured?

24 Ex-wife, sometimes?

26 Roman official

27 Umps

29 Bus. bigwig

30 Plant part

31 Writer Blyton

33 Tabula _

37 At full tilt

40 Violin bows?

44 Evils

45 Terry-cloth

inscription

46 Cookbook author

Rombauer

47 Deed

49 Wraps up

52 Incompetent

55 Neighbor of Latvia

57 TV's "The _ Game"

59 Melodramatic

60 Progress

61 Chaka Khan's
- group

63 Pigeon English?

64 To boot

66 Spud bud

67 Bulldog, for one

68 "Blame _ Rio" ('84 film)

69 Capone

impersonator?

73 Hire a private eye?

75 Landed

76 Palm Sunday

animal

77 Humbug lead-in

79 Act like an

antelope

80 Oxford figure

81 Vote in

83 "Watership Down"

author

85 Defy a dictator

89 Salad veggie

91 Geronimo's birthplace

93 Draw

94 Donated

95 Swedish currency

96 Mardi -

98 It may be white

99 Signor Ferrari

101 Stockbrokers?

105 Petite pet

108 Blood components

109 Kid at court

110 Former govt. agcy.

111 Carpenter _

113 Wine valley
- 116 Exit

120 FDA-approved snack?

126 "Equus," for instance?

128 Inventor Otis

129 Dingy digs

130 Pat on the buns?

131 Kuwaiti ruler

132 Blackboard

133 Type of chalcedony

134 Holler

135 Odense denizen

DOWN

1 Man's altar ego?

2 Like the Kalahari

3 Agra attire

4 Prepared a

pineapple

5 Whippet's warning

6 Keep the shelves

stocked

7 Crumhorn cousin

8 Sail support

9 Furniture wood

10 Jacket info

11 Big bird

12 _ brakes

13 Canonized Mlle.

14 "- you for real?"

15 Was an optimist

16 Unimprovable

17 Juicy fruit

21 Toast word

23 Await judgment

25 Macabre
- 28 _ Lanka

32 Tennis pro

Nastase

34 Moss Hart's autobiography

35 "_ Game" ('71 film)

36 Up and about

38 Requests

39 Ain't right?

40 Spanish sherry

41 Author Dinesen

42 "Peter Pan" pirate

43 Tried a mouthful

45 "What?"

48 Crack up

50 Proclamations

51 A nose that shows

53 Coat-of-arms

figure

54 Lovett or Waggoner

56 Italian greyhound, e.g.

57 Ignoramus

58 Used up

60 Gaggle gal

62 Wood and gas

65 Sedimentary stuff

68 Force

69 Lose luster

70 "_ Comes Mary" ('66 song)

71 Dano or Darnell

72 Messy Madison

73 Nickels and dimes

74 Designer

Lagerfeld

77 Church sale
- 78 Bustle

81 Happening

82 Latin class no-nos

84 Scratches the surface

86 Zodiac animal

87 Buffalo waterfront

88 Actor Horsley

90 Currier's partner

92 Memo start

93 On a whale watch, perhaps

95 Asian nation

97 Clothes

100 African equine

102 Quayle or Blocker

103 Eye appreciatively

104 Acted like a chick

105 Garden supplies

106 In the slightest degree

107 "GoodFellas" group

112 Return address?

114 "Hi, sailor!"

115 Battery part

117 _ mater

118 Self-smitten

119 Thornfield

governess

121 Cornerstone abbr.

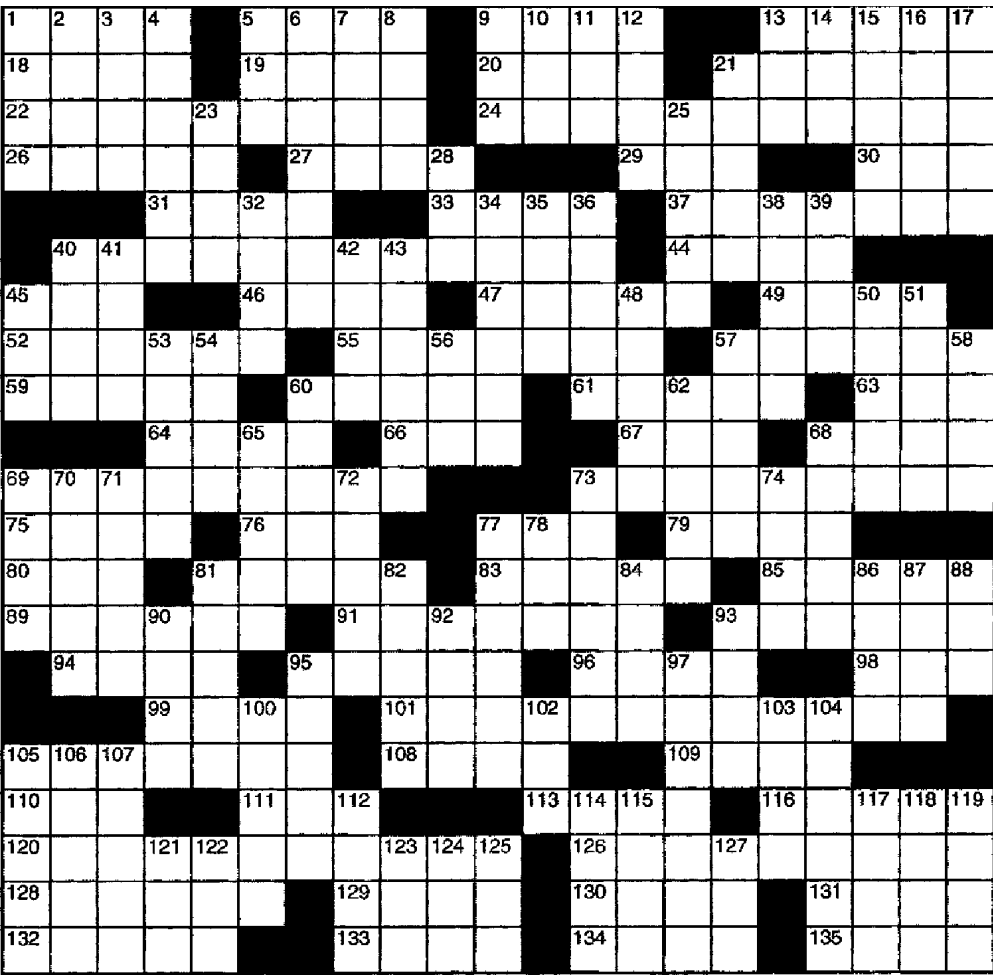
122 "Evita" character

123 "_ -Tiki"

124 TV Tarzan

125 King's handle?

127 Costa del _



Canutillo High School schedules Homecoming

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier

Canutillo High School will celebrate its annual Homecoming week, Sept. 29 through Oct. 4, with the theme “Celebrating 50 Years of Eagle Pride” in honor of Canutillo Independent School District’s 50th Anniversary.

Numerous activities have been scheduled throughout the week, beginning with the parade on Wednesday, Oct. 1. The parade will start at 5:30 p.m. in front of Canutillo Elementary School, 651 Canutillo Avenue, and travel through downtown Canutillo, ending at Gallegos Park on Bosque Road.

On Thursday, Oct. 2, CHS classes will be

decorating the halls at the campus during the annual Hall Decorating Contest. In addition, the annual Bonfire has been scheduled for 7 p.m., at the Support Services yard, 7710 Cap Carter Road.

A school-wide pep rally will be held at Coach Julius & Irene Lowenberg Eagles Stadium Friday morning, where the CHS Outstanding EX for 2008 will be introduced and honored. Kick-off for the Homecoming Game between the CHS Eagles and Horizon High School Scorpions will be at 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 3, and the Homecoming Court will be introduced during the halftime presentation.

The Homecoming Dance from 8 to 12 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4, will finalize the week’s festivities.

Safety

From Page 4

to educate the community about traffic laws.

“Sometimes many of us don’t know that we are breaking the law by some of the things that we do,” added Davila. Davila provided many examples of seemingly innocent habits that may lead to negative consequences such as not buckling up when driving a short distance within your neighborhood, not properly installing child car seats, or driving an overcrowded car with passengers sharing safety belts.

The feature that makes this traffic safety project unique is that it incorporates elements of the Hispanic culture by asking participants to serve as madrinas (godmothers) and padrinos (godfathers) in their community by promising to look after the safety of people they care about. According to Davila, the promesa (promise) that all participants recite during the workshop is a powerful incentive.

“The promesa that the participants make talks about their loved ones and how they will promise to talk to them because they don’t want to see these people that they care about lose their lives,” Davila said.

Davila who has been making presentations around the El Paso area since May has thus far been receiving very positive responses about the Madrinas-Padrinos Traffic Safety Project from participants. Davila believes that the program is resonating among the different communities she has visited because she encourages audience members to contribute to the discussion.

“I want to try to involve people to be able to share their experiences because the stories that they tell help not only to educate them but others as well,” Davila stated. Although Davila will use many of the stories that she hears to make connections with other communities, she hopes that the participants of the Madrinas-Padrinos Traffic Safety Project recount their own stories to their children and friends so that they can also begin to follow a lifestyle that includes safe driving behavior.

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Call 852-3235

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

3			9	2		5	
	1			7			4
		4	6		2		
		1		9		7	
5			8				2
2	6				1	3	
6					4		5
	9		7				8
		8		3		6	4

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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