

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 28, No. 32

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABENS, SAN ELIZARIO AND TORNILLO

AUGUST 9, 2001

NEWSBRIEFS

Swimwear goes to the dogs

You haven't seen it all until you've seen this! A dog and cat swimsuit contest goes on parade Aug. 17 with tasty prizes for the winners — criteria for judging has not been disclosed. Sponsored by Valley Feed Pet Food Center, 1360 Lee Trevino, the event will "show off your pet's zest for summer life in a battle for the best in their favorite beach ensemble or pool side swimwear," says the promo. "Store bought or homemade — anything goes!" There is no entry fee and only one category: dogs and cats. Enter by 5 p.m., judging is at 6 p.m., and the winner gets a year's supply of Valley's Own Premium Pet Food, with like prizes for second and third. The purpose of the event is "to celebrate summer and provide a fun opportunity for pets and their people to play together and socialize with other hip canines and felines," a spokesman said. For one evening, at least, if someone says a contestant looks like a dog in that swimsuit, it won't be an insult. For information, contact Amy Crown at 592-7443.

Smugglers interrupted

U.S. Border Patrol agents from Alamogordo and Alamogordo Department of Public Safety officers interrupted the smuggling of 14 illegal immigrants sealed in a grain-hauler truck over the weekend. The 1995 International tractor-trailer rig was stopped by DPS for a traffic violation. Border Patrol agents who arrived at the scene were asked to make a canine inspection, revealing nine people hiding in one of the truck's two grain bins and five in the second, including four women. An investigation revealed they had crossed the border illegally early that morning and were picked up by a van, driven to where the truck was waiting, and sealed inside the grain bins. Their final destinations were given as Missouri, Kansas, Tennessee and Texas, after they had paid the smugglers, or *coyotes*, about \$1,500 each. The 41-year old driver, a Mexican national, and his 45-year-old Mexican companion were remanded to federal custody pending prosecution for transporting illegal immigrants. The 14 passengers are being voluntarily repatriated to Mexico.

In other news

■ Socorro ISD Community Services is offering Spanish GED Class to the community on Monday and Wednesday evenings. An ESL class is also offered on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Registration for both classes will be the week beginning Monday, Aug. 13. The classes will be held at the Community Learning Center, 313 S. Rio Vista, from 6-8:30 p.m. Students may attend one or both classes, which are open to all community members 18 years and older. There will be on site registration and there is no fee. For further information call 860-6350.

■ Socorro ISD teacher Osvaldo Grijalva
See BRIEFS, Page 5

Live so that your memories will be part of your happiness.

— Quips and Quotes

Judge makes school attendance top priority Treating cause rather than symptom is key to curbing truancy

Courier Staff Reports

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — One of the most sensitive areas of the school/community relationship is that of attendance and truancy, but Pct. 6 Justice of the Peace Ruben Lujan has tackled the problem head-on with notable success, according to many.

The involvement of the Lujan's court in the truancy programs of five East County school districts comes into play when parents are charged with a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by up to \$500 fine, because their minor child has missed too many days of school.

Under Texas Family Law, the unexcused voluntary absence of a minor child from school for 10 or more days or parts of days within a six-month period for reasons not "found reasonable and proper" is subject to prosecution.

Lujan was appointed by the El Paso County Commissioners Court to fill the last two years of the unexpired term of Judge Frank Macias

after his retirement. His jurisdiction encompasses all or a part of the Tornillo, Fabens, San Elizario, Clint and Socorro school districts.

After taking office Jan. 1 of this year, Lujan found that truancy cases involve circumstances that are often complex and that finding equitable solutions are a major challenge.

"These problems (of excessive absenteeism) usually surface in middle school and high school," Lujan said, adding that truancy is usually a symptom of other problems in a student's life. Punishing the absenteeism without addressing the cause is counter-productive, he said.

"Mondays are 'Truancy Day' in my court," Lujan said. He sets aside time to talk at length with both the parents and the student, first sepa-



Ruben Lujan

ately, then together.

"I find a lot of single parents, a lot of young parents, and grandparents who are raising their grandchildren," Lujan said. He asks questions to determine the attitude of the student, if they are rebellious toward their parents, disrespectful or chronically late.

Based on these findings, Lujan is likely to sentence the entire family to counseling, which is arranged through the Aliviane Center in Socorro. Aliviane has agreed to a 33 percent reduction in their usual counseling fee and, in some cases, has even provided transportation to the counseling session.

Lujan also shifts the financial burden from parents to student, when appropriate, sentencing the young person to community service with a variety of agencies, including the County Road and Bridge Dept., the Senior Nutrition Centers in Horizon, San Elizario, Clint and Fabens, or within their school district, to cover the cost of the fine. He does not levy the maximum fine of \$500 on the first offense, reducing it to \$300.

Danny Ramos, truant officer for the Clint ISD campuses in the East Montana area, said Lujan's program is not about money.

"His focus on truanancies is helping us alot," Ramos said. "He doesn't want to charge the parents money. It's about getting the students the help they need."

As part of that help, Lujan's sentencing also mandates that if the student is not making passing grades, he or she must enter a tutoring program. He coordinates the sentence with assistant principals or attendance officers as an interface with the court.

If the student fails to participate or complete the program, the burden of responsibility then falls on the parent.

He also utilizes the services of the School Resource Officers (SRO) to issue actual citations to the students at school, targeting specifically truancy, disorderly conduct and disruption of class.

Matt Moore, who prosecutes cases in the justice of the peace courts, said Lujan assigns more tutoring than most judges.

"He and I agree on a lot of this — the community service and tutoring. He emphasizes respect for teachers, school, parents and the judge," Moore said. "I've seen a huge change in the attitude of many of these kids when they come to their review hearing."

He said he was looking forward to the new school year to see what effect Lujan's attitude-improvement program has had on attendance.

But Tornillo ISD's Attendance Officer Bertha Bean said it had already made measurable improvement last year, with attendance making a five percent improvement from 92 to 97 percent.

"Our attendance has gone up. Attitudes are improved," she said. "Getting the parents involved has helped, too."

"He (Lujan) is not messing around. He explains (to the students) that if you do the crime, you do the time," Bean said. Some of the community service at the Tornillo ISD includes cleaning bathrooms, trash detail, washing windows and sweeping halls, she said.

Socorro ISD attendance officer Sally Upchurch said the program has been "very productive."

"A lot of the kids turned around, especially

Three SISD employees surprised by awarding of Coins of Excellence

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Superintendent Dr. Don P. Schulte has recently presented three Coins of Excellence to Socorro Independent School District employees. The Coin is presented at the discretion of the superintendent and honors those employees and friends of the District who go beyond the expected in service to the District, its employees and students.

Rachel Tarango, the District's Partners in Education/Volunteer Specialist, received Coin No. 47 in July. Tarango's program organizes and teaches parents how to do volunteer work in Socorro's schools. Tarango is a parent, and was once a volunteer.

Miyesser Collins is Student Activities Director at Americas High School. Schulte sur-

prised Collins with the July 31 presentation of Coin No. 48, and praised Collins' strong involvement — often lasting into the evening hours — in her school's many events.

Janet Levine is part of the District's Title I federal funding program. Her responsibilities include preparing new teachers for the classroom and staff development for all teachers. On Aug. 1, Schulte commended Levine for her success in teacher mentoring and retaining new teachers, and presented her with Coin No. 49.

The honorees will formally receive their coins during the next regular District board meeting, scheduled for 6 p.m. Aug. 21 in the Education Center Board Room.



Janet Levine



Rachel Tarango



Miyesser Collins

Socorro appoints police chief Canuteson as emergency management coordinator

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — Since the Socorro Fire Department operates through the County of El Paso and is not part of the City of Socorro, Mayor Amado Padilla said it would be wise for the City of Socorro to name an Emergency Management Coordinator.

Padilla made these comments during the

regularly scheduled Socorro City Council meeting on Aug. 2. He said this person would have the role of being the primary contact person during any emergency crisis such as flooding, train derailments, etc. This same individual would be responsible for contacting emergency assistance as needed.

Members of City Council then voted to designate Police Chief Buryl Canuteson as

See SOCORRO, Page 4

See JUDGE, Page 3



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Era of the airheads

HORIZON — The internet communication system this country is increasingly dependent on is about as stable as water.

Anybody who uses internet e-mail regularly already knows this. I just thought I'd go ahead and say it out loud for those of you who don't.

I guess this statement should be modified to say that the companies that provide the infrastructure to deliver our e-mail service are unstable. They come and go without warning, here today, gone tomorrow, taking your money with them.

During the time that tech stocks were at their peak and scruffy little teeny boppers who hadn't learned the importance of shaving yet were making skatey-eight gazillion bucks with their IPO's, Alan Greenspan was testifying before Congress.

He said in the past that the rise and fall of the stock market could be predicted fairly accurately, as it was based on tangibles such as durable goods, agriculture production, etc. But the new tech market, he said, was based on "air" and therefore was not subject to the usual criteria for sound adjustment in interest rates.

When you are based on "air" and the bottom falls out, you don't have much to break the fall.

We signed on with an ISP (Internet Service Provider) called WorldShare. They utilize POPs (Point of Presence) which are the phone numbers, provided by other companies, to allow you to access the internet. We enrolled with WorldShare in March, at a discount because we prepaid for a year.

Early Monday morning, it was discovered that we couldn't access the Courier e-mail. About a jillion phone calls later, it was learned that two major POPs that WorldShare was using had gone bust — one shut down

entirely and the other disconnected numbers nationwide in a desperate attempt to stay in business. The POPs' demise was also affecting other major ISPs.

WorldShare in Ohio, who had our account, was transferring all their accounts to another company called WorldShare in Washington — all except those that were prepaid. They didn't want to turn over the already-collected revenue, so our account was in limbo.

A rather abrupt "customer service" person informed us that they had sent us a message about the shutdown via our e-mail — which was now inaccessible. That is sort of like locking your kid in the house, moving to another town, and leaving a note tacked to the outside of the door telling the child to find your new home without directions.

This "customer service" person also chided us for not keeping a second server on retainer to cover the situation, implying it was somehow faulty reasoning on our part to actually depend on her company to provide the service we had purchased.

Square one. We re-enrolled with the Washington WorldShare, with more payment, of course, to get back on-line. We hope that the company president, Bill — who answered his own phone — knows how to shave and will still be in business next week.

This week was only the latest incident we've encountered on our most excellent internet adventure. I used to be impatient with companies when their "computer system is down." I'm more sympathetic these days.

There are scruffy little former-multi-millionaires sleeping in their cars in Silicon Valley, according to the nightly news. A friend of mine



in Dallas has a son — a high school dropout — who was making an obscene amount of money working for a tech company. He bought a house with big payments only a few months before being told he

didn't need to come to work tomorrow — no advance notice, just no money.

The tech craze and the internet has spawned a way of thinking, a philosophy even, that has forever

changed the workings of our civilization. There is no going back, but I wonder about the wisdom of our having leapt over the technological cliff without a parachute.

I guess that makes us airheads.



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

Scorecard of Congress' achievements

The past six months have been busy for the 107th Congress. We've had some fantastic accomplishments. I think now is a good time to take a look back at what we've done so far this year. For those of keeping score at home, following is a brief rundown of some of our major accomplishments. Keep in mind, this is a brief rundown. There are many more achievements, but because space is limited, here are some highlights:

TAX CUTS

Two weeks ago, the United States Treasury Department mailed out the first shipment of refund checks. More than 92 million hard-working American taxpayers will receive refund checks this summer. These checks represent the most immediate result

of the \$1.3 trillion tax reform package signed into law by the president. The changes in the current tax rates were a part of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 and were the first major adjustments to this system in two decades. These reforms were a major initiative of President Bush during his campaign. My colleagues in Congress wasted no time following through on this promise.

PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

Just last week, the House of Representatives approved legislation that will deliver patient protections and affordable health care to more Americans. The Patients' Bill of Rights allows patients to hold HMOs accountable for their health-care needs. At the same time, the legislation protects patients and their families from paying the costs of unnecessary and expensive litigation that threatens to increase

their health care premiums and jeopardize their health insurance coverage. The key point in this legislation is that doctors and patients get to make important medical decisions, not attorneys and HMO executives.

EDUCATION

The month of May marked an end to Washington's control over our children's education. The U.S. House of Representatives passed education reform that will empower parents and give children greater opportunities. It's a common-sense approach that includes quality programs, accountability, dollars directly to the classroom, and parental involvement and responsibility. Education is not about government or bureaucrats or federal mandates. Education is first, last and always about children.

ENERGY

After eight years without a coherent energy policy, the House of Representatives approved a comprehensive energy plan to increase conservation and production while protecting the environment. The Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE) Act is designed to prevent the volatile gasoline and electricity price fluctuations of earlier this year from happening again. The SAFE Act was modeled after President Bush's national energy policy. If agreed on by the Senate, the legislation would encourage greater domestic energy production, help modernize America's aging energy infrastructure, and promote conservation. This solution has been a long-time coming.

These are only a few highlights of the tremendous accomplishments of Congress so far this year. We've also passed an Agriculture spending bill. I'm especially proud of this legislation because I serve as the chairman of the subcommittee that authors it. I'm also especially proud of our work overturning a flawed ergonomics regulation put in place by the Clinton Administration. We have a long way yet to go, but I think we can all agree that this is a great start.

True Texas Facts by Roger Moore

August 13, 1912 - Golfer Ben Hogan is born in Dublin, Texas.



WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABENS, SAN ELIZABO AND TORNILE

PUBLISHED:
Published each Thursday by Homesteader News, Inc. Appreciation to our many contributors. Office open Monday through Thursday.

COPYRIGHT:
Entire contents © 2001 Homesteader News, Inc. Individual authors retain all rights. Pictures, drawings and written material appearing in the West Texas County Courier may not be used or reproduced without written permission of Homesteader News, Inc.

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.

AD DEADLINE:
Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

CLASSIFIED RATES
\$5 for 15 words, \$10 for 35 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The Courier reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

DISPLAY RATES:
Open rate — \$16 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The Courier reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS:
52 issues for \$30.
Delivery via 1st class mail.

ADDRESS:
13899 Horizon Blvd., Ste. 2
Horizon City, TX 79928

Phone: 852-3235
Fax: 852-0123
E-mail: wtccc@excite.com

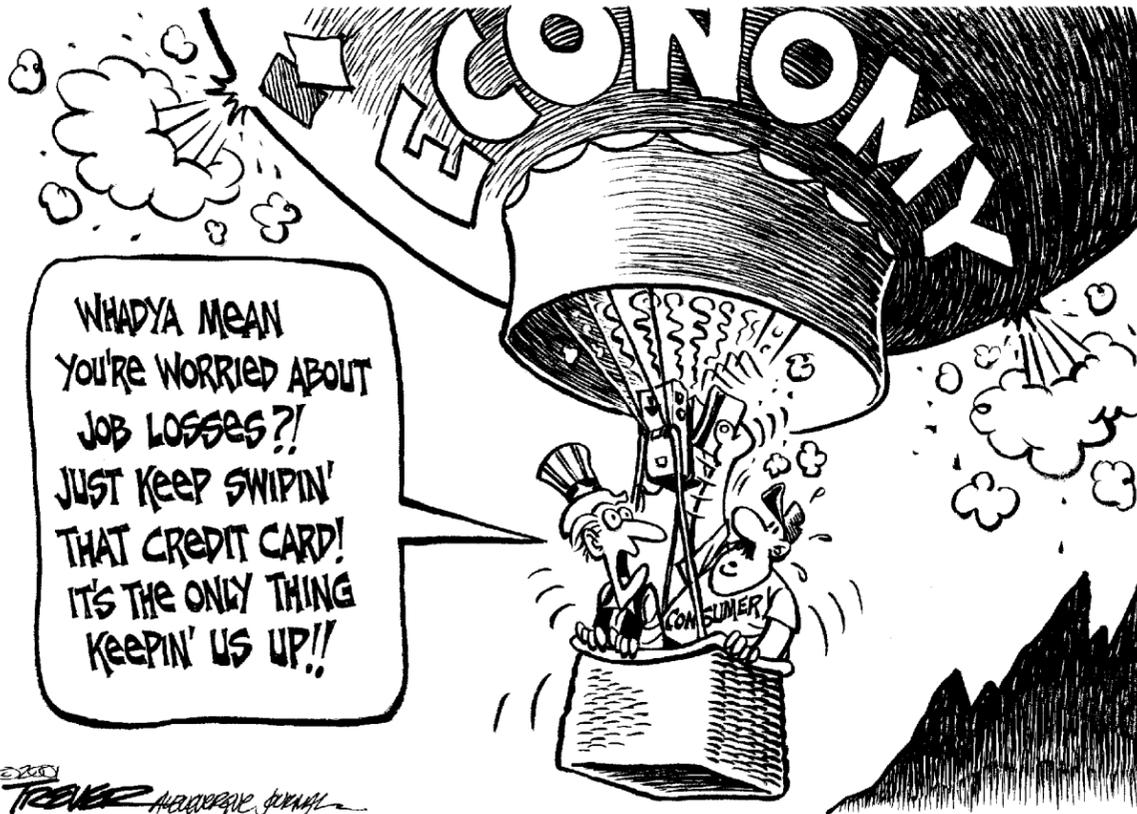
Publisher
Rick Shrum
Business Manager
Francis D. Shrum

Contributors
Marjorie F. Graham
Don Woodyard
Steve Escajeda
Arleen Beard

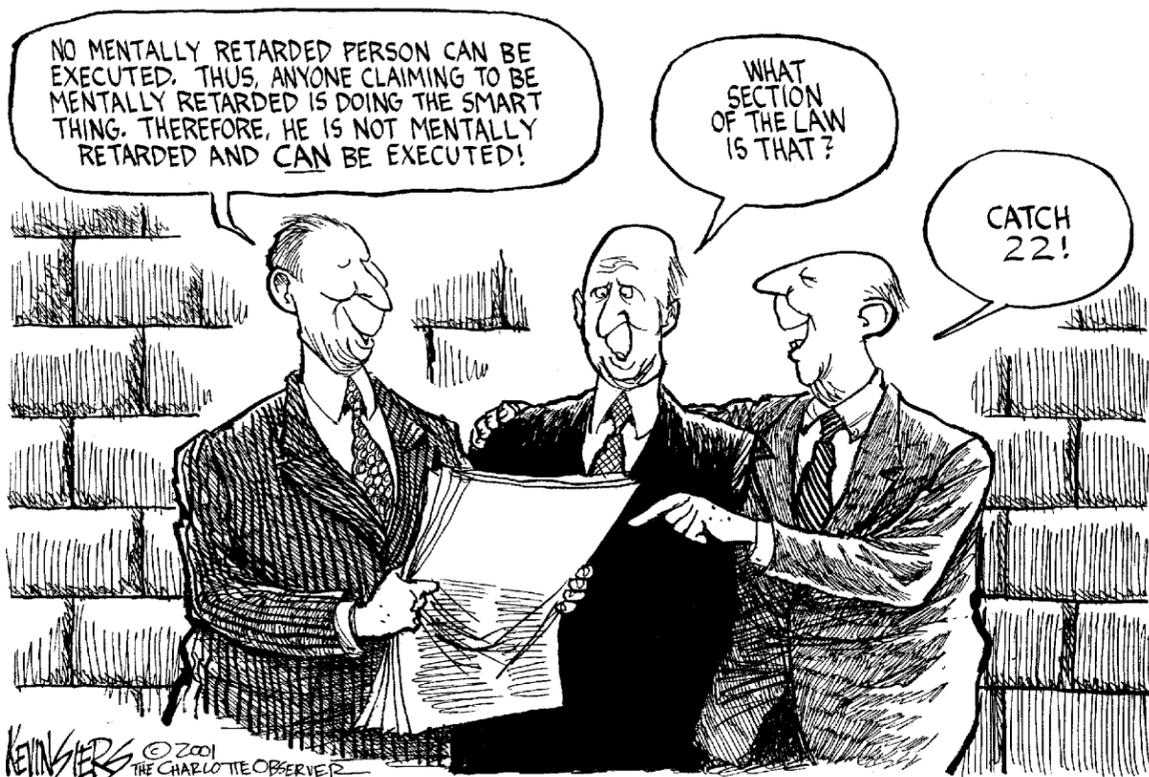
Homesteader
Est. 1973
News, Inc.



Member Texas Community
Newspaper Association



TREVOR ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL



KEVIN STIERS © 2001 THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER



Reyes Reports

By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Railroad Retirement and Survivors Act of 2001 passes

Earlier this month, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1140, the Railroad Retirement and Survivors Act of 2001 by a vote of 384 to 33. This bill amends the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 and increases benefits to railroad employees and their beneficiaries.

The purpose of this legislation is to modernize a system which predates Social Security. These reforms are long overdue. The Railroad Retirement and Survivors' Improvement Act recognizes the work that our rail workers perform in service of this country. El Paso has a long history and association with the railroad. The railroad and its workers have always played an integral role in the fabric of our city.

This bill makes some of the most important improvements in the railroad retirement program since its inception in 1935. This reform legislation makes several improvements in the current benefit structure, especially for widows and widowers. The bill also provides significant tax relief for the railroad industry and strengthens the financing of the Railroad Retirement program.

Many of El Paso's railroad retirees contacted me and my office about the importance of this bill. They have been anxious to see this bill get enacted into law because it will double benefits for widows of railroad retirees, reduce the retirement age from 62 to 60 years of age with 30 years of service. This bill also reduces the vesting requirement for railroad retirement benefits for employees and survivors from after five years of service, rather than ten, as currently required.

This legislation serves to modernize the current railroad retirement system and will benefit hundreds of thousands of retirees, and surviving widows and dependents. I believe that this bill will bring us significantly closer to achieving retirement security for rail workers and retirees. Surviving spouses and dependents suffer substantial reductions in benefits upon the death of a railroad worker or retiree. This bill will provide a guaranteed minimum benefit for survivors. While benefiting survivors, H.R. 1140 will also benefit railroads by reducing payroll taxes.

This is a good piece of legislation — it's good for workers, it's good for survivors, it's good for the railroads, and it's good for America. This bill aims to provide equitable and fitting compensation for those who have served and those who are currently serving the railroad industry. The railroad retirement trust fund will receive increased revenues for its beneficiaries through investment in a diversified portfolio. By passing this bill, Congress is ensuring that the hard work, long hours, and true dedication of the many men and women who have built the rail tracks throughout this country are provided with the benefits they deserve.

In spite of the delay tactics on behalf of the administration and some members of Congress, I was pleased to see that this bill passed the US House of Representatives before Congress recessed for the August break. The bill is expected to go to the Senate in the Fall.

Judge

From Page 1

freshmen," Upchurch said. "They don't want to get hurt financially or go back to court. It's a good program," she said.

In the future, Lujan said he wants to conduct actual court sessions in the school and allow students to attend as spectators — to give kids an

up close and personal view of what it looks like to "go before the bench." At least two school districts have agreed to this approach in principle.

At the close of Lujan's term in December of 2002, he said he fully intends to run for the office again.

"I love this job, working with the community, schools, kids and various organizations," he said. "I believe my past experience as a school board member has prepared me for this job."

View from the porch By Linda Mussehl

Not in my back yard



I recall fondly a news feature I saw several years ago on TV about a local zoning battle somewhere in the Southwest. It was a typical suburban sprawl issue, where subdivisions of nice houses surrounded remnants of farm land.

An entrepreneurial woman wanted to turn her 40 acres or so into a boarding stable, a white-fences, green-fields, horses-quietly-grazing kind of place. The back yards of new houses abutted her place on three sides, houses owned by people who moved to the "country" to enjoy the quiet life and fresh air.

Well, the neighbors went crazy over her venture: "My children might stick their fingers over the fence and get them bitten off!"

"Can you imagine living with those huge animals over your back fence?"

"Horses poop, you know."

"Not in MY back yard."

The neighbors protested to their local zoning board. The farm was zoned agricultural land; horses are not "livestock;" a boarding stable is a commercial enterprise; and that was that. A victory for suburbanites everywhere. They had saved their back yards.

But the denouement was sweet (and legal). The woman studied the zoning definition of "agricultural," changed her fencing order from white boards to pipe and stout wire, and filled her fields with bona fide farm animals — hogs — hundreds of them.

"Not In My Back Yard," they say. "Put It Maybe By You." The NIMBY-PIMBYs rule the day.

I can see both sides of the issue. After all, we invest our time and money in our property and don't want changes that would diminish the value. It's always

difficult to adjust to any change, either positive or negative. And then there's that feeling of helplessness, a realization that we're not in total control, that the world doesn't run according to our own personal whims.

Pardner and I went through all those feelings earlier this year, when changes started happening on the big pasture across the road from our place. The land had changed hands, the mare bunch we liked to watch was gone, and then the bulldozers moved in.

I imagined the worst when we saw the long, sinuous diagonal scraped across the pasture. It sure looked like a road to me. Then they put in stakes every hundred feet or so along the "road."

Pardner had his reservations, but I was convinced that we were fixing to be developed. I could visualize seventy "country estate" trailer houses over there. Let's see, 70 families means 70 wells and septic tanks and 120 cars going back and forth to town every day. At 2.3 children per household, that's 161 kids to climb our fragile fences and roam our fields. Oh, and there'll be at least 140 dogs, chained and barking all night or running loose to chase stock.

It was such a relief when they started stacking dunnage and digging a deep trench in the middle of the "road." Hurray. It's only a pipeline, a beautiful new 12-inch, high-pressure natural gas line.

Some would say NIMBY to a pipeline. After all, they explode. Yes, they do, and airplanes sometimes fall out of the sky and drop on your house. The odds are about the same.

Now that the pipeline work is finished, we see the reseeded right-of-way as a vaccination scar, inoculating that pasture against developers. It looks plumb PIRTY: Put It Right There, Yes.

City of Socorro PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:30 p.m. during the City Council meeting of Thursday, August 16, 2001 at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the following proposed ordinance(s):

- 1) An ordinance adopting a Budget for Fiscal Year commencing October 1, 2001 and ending on September 30, 2002 for the City of Socorro, Texas.

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

TERE RODRIGUEZ
City Secretary

View from here By Texas Governor Rick Perry

Addressing the needs of the border region

"The border of Texas is not the back yard, but the front door to our state and our nation."

With those words in my first speech as Governor, I clearly stated my goal of working toward meeting the needs of the 4.1 million residents who live in the border region. I'm pleased to report that the 2001 legislative session, with the bipartisan support of Texas legislators, had a real impact on the quality of life in this vital area of our state.

Despite budget constraints, state leaders funded programs that will pump more than \$185 million into the region. We approved an additional \$243 million in tuition revenue bonds for South Texas and border universi-

ties, colleges and technical institutions

In addition, Texans will have an opportunity to approve a constitutional amendment this November providing up to \$175 million in bonds for road construction in colonias. Pending voter approval of those bonds, border funding may see a total boost of more than \$360 million from this session.

Working together, Democrats and Republicans focused much of their attention on problems that have plagued the border region for decades, such as limited educational opportunities, chronic ailments and diseases, and inadequate infrastructure.

By tripling the TEXAS Grant Pro-

gram to \$300 million, an additional 65,000 students from low-income and moderate-income families will have the opportunity to pursue their dream of a college degree. Nearly half — 47 percent — of TEXAS Grant funding goes to Hispanic students. We also established a TEXAS Grant II program to help thousands of young Texans attend a community college or technical school in the state.

We helped provide new opportunities to the children of undocumented workers — those who have been here three years and have completed high school in Texas — by allowing them to pay in-state tuition rates at our state colleges and universities. We also authorized the creation of a pharmacy school at Texas A&M University - Kingsville, the first of its kind in the border region.

Some have raised concerns about vetoes of a bill pertaining to procedures for obtaining a driver's license and another impacting wages paid by border school districts. These decisions were based on sound reasoning.

The driver's license bill failed to address a very critical public policy and public safety issue — the ability to verify the identity of an individual

from a foreign country seeking a drivers license. Verifying the authenticity of foreign birth certificates is complicated, yet important, since driver's licenses are often accepted as proof of ID for such activities as cashing checks. My staff is working with bill sponsors, Mexican government officials and interested organization to resolve this issue and to find ways to ensure that immigrants can obtain vehicle insurance.

Another vetoed bill would have allowed border-area school districts to require construction contractors they hire to pay their workers more than the current wage rates in the area. School districts should not be forced to spend more on school construction or repairs than necessary. Every additional dollar that school districts must spend on construction is a dollar less they have to spend on educating our children.

To help ensure the health of border children and families, the Legislature passed and I signed Senate Bill 43, a new law simplifying the Medicaid application process and allowing parents to enroll their children by phone, mail or at any state health and human services office. The new law not only makes it easier to enroll chil-

dren in Medicaid, but more importantly it encourages parents to make sure their children receive preventative health care.

The balanced state budget I signed into law increases Medicaid spending by approximately \$4.2 billion to a record \$25.3 billion while making Medicaid more efficient and saving taxpayers more than \$400 million. State leaders also increased funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) by \$935.7 million. Texas serves nearly one million children every month in the Medicaid program and an additional 380,000 children in CHIP.

In my State of the State address, I advocated expanding the use of telemedicine technology for underserved areas. Telemedicine is a method of delivering medical services over long distances to remote areas through the use of advanced telecommunications technology.

And this session, we passed legislation to establish a telemedicine pilot program aimed at enhancing health care services along the Texas border.

We further addressed health care needs through House Bill 2498, which establishes an interim study to provide recommendations for the development of affordable and accessible health care coverage — including the possibility of bi-national health care coverage — along the Texas-Mexico border region.

And, we have taken steps to

See PERRY, Page 8



Gov. Rick Perry

REAL ESTATE AUCTIONS
150+ TX PROPERTIES
 Homes, Apartment Complex, Comm. Bldgs, Land and More!
FEATURED LOCAL PROPERTY
 5 +/--ACRES! (LAND ONLY) at 15054 Jacob Kuechler Dr, Clint. Local Contact - Brenda Karch 915-581-5316, Note: Property offered by sealed Bid. Contact Hudson & Marshall for Bid Forms.
Motivated Sellers Due To FORECLOSURE.
 All Properties Will Sell With • Insurable Titles, • No Back Taxes • And No Liens
FOR A FREE AUCTION BROCHURE WITH DETAILS AND PHOTOS, CALL
1-800-441-9401

HUDSON & MARSHALL
 AMERICA'S AUCTION AUTHORITY
 \$2,500 Cashiers check required to bid.
 Broker Participation Invited
 See Our Online Catalog at www.hudsonandmarshall.com
 PAT HARVILL BRKR #0380534

LOANS AVAILABLE REAL ESTATE LIVESTOCK & EQUIPMENT

Jimmy Chambers
 520 W. Catherine Marfa 79843
 915-729-4351
 If you are purchasing 5 acres or 50,000 acres, you need a lending specialist who knows the area and knows how to help you arrange a financing package tailored to fit your individual needs. You will find that specialist at Southwest Texas ACA.
SOUTHWEST TEXAS ACA
 Your Agricultural Credit Association
 Offices
 Marfa - Devine - Edinburg - Hondo - Laredo
 Pleasanton - San Antonio - Sonora - Uvalde
 800-663-2846
 WWW.SOUTHWESTTEXASFLBA.COM

Socorro

From Page 1

the city's Emergency Management Coordinator. Canuteson was appointed as Police Chief on May 14 of this year.

In other business, members of Council awarded the bid for insulation material needed at 860 Rio Vista,

to Insul Tech West. The cost of \$3283.28 is for material only.

Council also awarded the bid for a water line extension for Quail Mesa to Jan Car Inc. at a cost of slightly over \$14,000. The cost will be shared with the Lower Valley Water District.

During the departmental reports, City Representative Jesus Hernandez reported an office had been located for Congressman Reyes to use in order to make himself more accessible

to the citizens of Socorro. Other organizations to be operating out of the same office will be the Veteran's Administration, Social Security and the Immigration of Naturalization Services. This office will be open to all citizens of El Paso county, but will be especially accessible to the residents of Socorro, due to its location.

Mayor Padilla reported the Police Department now has a staff of 24

Classified Ads

LEGALS

As per Article V, Sec. 5.05(a), all owners and lienholders have ten (10) days from this date to reclaim their vehicles at Southwest Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges:
 V I N - INNGO232XOXM312815 red trailer, OR 18-26-781
 V I N - IDTVII520WA263098, Dorsey, white, FL COO-0UJ
 V I N - ISI26C406VB721770, Strick trailer, black, OR 24519
 V I N - IPNV532BXYH228163, white trailer, OHT346313
 V I N - INNCO2327XM316607, red trailer, 19911974
 V I N - IH2V0829FE023069, Fruehauf, white, OK 6459DH
 V I N - IH2V4529FH032436, Fruehauf, white
 VIN-B-33986, Flex 1, van, black, NJ 235894
 V I N - ISI2P9482FD265927, Strick trailer, grey, TN T149294
 V I N - INNCO2327XM316604, Mono semi, rust, MO 1911974
 V I N - INNCO232QXM312815, Mono semi, red, MO

1826781
 V I N - I3NI482CIV15776210, Fountain, black, MO HR03175
 V I N - KRISM2327YD11975, Jindo, red, ME 0272750
 VIN-8I4AI22, Cont trailer, black, TN 14650
 V I N - 3H3CH92SIRTOO455I, Hyundai, blue, NJ FT95902
 Stoughton, white, ME 3030BW
 VIN-S50659, mobile trailer, rust/brown, TN IUVI469
 V I N - LLD232DUB80686, red trailer
 V I N - IH2V04524CH006369, Fruehauf, white, NJ
 V I N - INNCC4821UM127525, Monon, black, TN 0829820
 V I N - IH2VOU826GAOOS833, Fruehauf, white, MO X-78661
 V I N - IDNC412S7YTI188O, Hyundai, red, MO I4171
 VIN-I482C-I-VIS762IO, Fontane, red, OK 03175
 V I N - I34-24820-3-I1544122, Cont, red, AZ FT43302
 VIN-1S12C14OON-B6747O3, yellow trailer, MO 2-I2O4O
 V I N - IAJC232SXS1005227, Hercules, blue/green, OK 071138
 V I N -

ISI2SC231FC6S1179, red, ME 919298
 WTCC-8/9/01
SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/ Respond:
 Sealed bids/proposals/CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services accepted at the following times:
SPORTS TRAINING SUPPLIES
CSP NO. 199-0817-1088
FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 2001 2 P.M.
 Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
 WTCC-8/09/01
SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/ Respond:
 Sealed bids/proposals/CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services ac-

cepted at the following times:
PAPER SUPPLIES
CSP NO. 199-0820-1090
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2000 3:30 P.M.
 Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
 WTCC-8/09/01
SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/ Respond:
 Sealed bids/proposals/CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services accepted at the following times:
OFFICE AND TEACHING SUPPLIES
CSP NO. 199-0820-1066
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2001 2:30 P.M.
 Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, until the specified times. Detailed

specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
 WTCC-8/09/01
SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/ Respond:
 Sealed bids/proposals/CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services accepted at the following times:
AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT
CSP NO. 199-0817-1089
FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 2001 2:30 P.M.
 Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
 WTCC-8/09/01
FOR SALE
 DAIRY EQUIPMENT: 1) Pure-Pak filler, quart-pint, paper. 2) Pure-Pak filler, half-gal. paper. Extra parts. Will deliver. Call

307-856-0350.
 8/9
HELP WANTED
 ATTENTION!
 Experienced milkers Pecos, Texas area 915-447-3143
 CONTACT: Marcos Natividad at Trans-Pecos Dairy, Inc.
 SALARY: Commensurate with experience.
ATENCION!
Ordenadores con experiencia
 Pecos, Texas area 915-447-3143
 Albar con Marcos Natividad, Trans-Pecos Dairy, Inc.
 Salario depende de la experiencia
 WTCC-8/16
MYSTERY SHOPPER
 needed in Horizon City to evaluate local convenience store. Write P. O. Box 2912, Broken Arrow, OK, 74013-2912. Please include your telephone number.
 8/9
 Hair Slingers in Horizon City is seeking experienced cosmetologist. Apply in person after 2 p.m. at 13899 Horizon Blvd., Ste. 4, Horizon City.
 VTFN
RENTALS
THREE BEDROOM HOUSE for rent, two

baths, large den, living room and kitchen. Close to Clint, on farm. References required. Call Bob Wilson, 852-0732 or 526-1718.
OFFICE SPACE
 Office for lease in Horizon City. Corner of Darrington and Horizon Blvd. \$350/month. Call Horizon Properties, 852-3331.
SELF-HELP OPPORTUNITIES
 Alcoholics Anonymous Group Paso Del Norte meets at 8501 Kingsway in Westway, Monday-Saturday, 8 p.m. Call 886-4849 for information. *Alcohólicos Anónimos Grupo Paso Del Norte sesiones lunes a sábado, a 8-9 de la tarde, 8501 Kingsway, Westway. 886-4849 para informacion.*
 Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous Group 8 de Enero meets at 1608 McMahon in Horizon City on Mondays and Fridays at 8 p.m. Call 859-0484 for information.
Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solucion. Visitemos. Alcohólicos Anónimos, Grupo 8 de Enero, 1608 McMahon, Horizon City,

sesiones lunes y viernes a 8 de la tarde. Informacion: 859-0484.
SERVICES
 "Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring"
JIFFY GLASS REPAIR
 Windshield Repair Specialists
 By appt. at your home or office:
 R.V. Dick Harshberger
 915-852-9082
BERT'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR
 Domestic and Foreign
 852-3523
 1558 Oxbow, Horizon City
HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079
 • Heating/cooling
 • Electric roter service for sewers and drains
 • Appliance installation
 • Many other plumbing services
 • 24-hour service
 Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.
AL'S PLACE
 Warehouse Space
 900 sq ft-\$200
 Yard Storage \$20 and Up
 Horizon Industrial Park,
 418 Kenazo, Horizon City
 852-3949

Briefs

From Page 1

will represent Texas at the National Symposium on adult English as a Second Language Literacy Research and Practice on Sept. 5-7 in Washington, D.C. Grijalva teaches family literacy classes during the day and a ESL class evenings.

■ The El Paso County Democratic Party's monthly meeting for August will be Tuesday, Aug. 14, at 6:00 p.m. at 1305 Texas Avenue. All Precinct Chairs and elected officials are encouraged to invite others to the meeting. Anyone wishing to place an item on the agenda should call the County Chairwoman previous to Aug. 14. For further information call 533-2141.

■ Dr. Rainier Spencer, son of John and Lilo Spencer of Horizon City, has been appointed to the position of Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at UNLV, effective Aug. 13. "We are fortunate to have a person of Rainier's reputation and accomplishments serving the col-

lege in this capacity," said UNLV spokesman Jim Frey in announcing the appointment.

■ The Rio Grande Citizens' Forum of the U.S. section of the International Boundary and Water Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Las Cruces Hilton Hotel, 705 S. Telshor Blvd. to discuss El Paso/Las Cruces project. Information: 915-832-4175.

■ The Socorro High School cheer and yell leaders won several awards at the UTEP Miner Cheer Camp earlier this summer. The Freshmen team received an "excellent" rating on their final performance, with yell leader Robert Almanza selected as a finalist in the jump. The JV team received a "superior" rating on their final performance. The Varsity team received a "superior" rating on their overall performance, as well as the Outstanding Miner Sportsmanship Award, and second on their home routine. Roger Avila was a finalist, and Lisa Padilla won second in the jump.

■ Socorro High School Missionettes were award winners

at the Showmakers of America Dance Camp. Captains Jessica Rodriguez, Vanessa Campos and Marcos Diaz DeLeon received the "superlative" award at the camp. Rodriguez, Campos, Diaz DeLeon and fellow captains Ana Arjon, Isabel Villalobos and Heather McBride won the sweepstakes award, and were honored as all-star dancers, qualifying them for the Citrus Bowl in Florida and the Macy Parade in New York.

■ The El Paso School of Excellence, a Texas Charter School, is still accepting enrollments for new students in second through 8th grades. The school serves students Pre-K through 8th. The first day of class is Aug. 15. The EPSE opened in September of 2000 with 110 students and concluded with 224. For further information, call 595-1599.

■ The Eastwood High School Student Council is looking for nominations for their Homecoming Honored Ex and Grand Marshal through Aug. 20. Send or drop nominations to Eastwood High School Student Activities Office, 2430 McRae Blvd., El

Paso, TX 79925. Call 434-4015 or 4016 for information.

■ San Elizario ISD has added new staff for the new school year. Two new staff members have been added to the Lorenzo Loya Primary School this year: Edith

Garcia and Alyssa Cadena — both will teach pre-kindergarten. There are also new faces at Lorenzo G. Alarcon Elementary: Miguel Padilla, Neyra DeLara, Mayra Perez, Haydee Zavala, Sandra Mercado, Nadia Cordova, and Isela Reyna.

NOTICE OF EFFECTIVE TAX RATE

2001 Property Tax Rates in the City of Socorro

This notice concerns 2001 property tax rates for the **City of Socorro**. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$1,261,585
Last year's debt taxes	233,877
Last year's total taxes	1,495,462
Last year's tax base	376,570,156
Last year's total tax rate	.397127/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$1,501,893
+This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	367,731,657
=This year's effective tax rate	.408421/\$100
x1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings	.420674/\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function, tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$1,267,011
+This year's adjusted tax base	367,731,657
=This year's effective operating rate	.344548/\$100
x1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	.372111/\$100
+This year's debt rate	.066164/\$100
=This year's rollback rate	.438275/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the **City of Socorro** adopts a 2001 tax rate equal to the effective rate of **.408421** per \$100 of value, taxes would **increase** compared to 2000 taxes by **\$85,158**.

SCHEDULE A: Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$1,074,062.00
Debt Service (I&S)	31,349.00

SCHEDULE B: 2001 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Certificates of Obligation 1993	\$65,000.00	\$3,835.00	-0-	\$68,835.00
Certificates of Obligation 1999	15,000.00	53,227.50	-0-	68,227.50
Certificates of Obligation 2001	5,700.00	35,541.72	-0-	41,241.72
Park & Ride	7,400.00	-0-	-0-	7,400.00
Public Service	10.00	-0-	-0-	10.00
First National Bank	10,699.23	5,133.64	-0-	15,832.87
Government Leasing Co.	10,250.64	392.76	-0-	10,643.40
First National Bank	3,166.68	344.88	-0-	3,511.56
First Capital Group	9,890.21	970.63	-0-	10,860.84
Fleet Leasing	542.96	-0-	-0-	542.96
U.S. Trust	1,000.00	-0-	-0-	1,000.00
Ford Motor Credit	12,593.37	749.31	-0-	13,342.68
Ford Motor Credit	12,350.18	1,882.19	-0-	14,232.37
Interlease	1,581.60	-0-	-0-	1,581.60

Total required for 2001 debt service	\$257,262.50
-Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from other resources	-0-
-Excess collections last year	-0-
=Total to be paid from taxes in 2001	257,262.50
+Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2001	-0-
=Total Debt Levy	257,262.50

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rate calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at the City of El Paso Tax Office located at the intersection of Durango and Franklin streets.

Name of person preparing this notice: Juan F. Sandoval

Title: Tax Assessor/Collector

Date prepared: July 31, 2001

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The **Fabens Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 22, 2001 in the Board Room of the Central Office, 821 N.E. "G" Ave., Fabens, TX 79838. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed tax rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.419997	\$ 0.080003*	\$ 1.500000	\$ 521	\$ 5,258
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.502479	\$ 0.080003*	\$ 1.582482	\$ 612	\$ 5,854
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.419997	\$ 0.080003*	\$ 1.500000	\$ 580	\$ 5,523

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 38,361	\$39,049
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 23,356	\$24,027
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.500000	\$ 1.500000
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 350.34	\$ 360.40
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 10.06

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in the tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.642482. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.642482.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 3,884,104
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 19,000

Here's hoping the Miners can keep their new-found respect

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

I remember when I was younger and the pre-season WAC meetings were held every year and I would cross my fingers and hope that the voters would at least keep the Miners out of the cellar.

And every year, I would be disappointed. And every year, the Miners would prove those football prognosticators right. Last place again.

I never thought I would see the day that the Miners would be picked in the top three in any WAC preseason poll but it has finally happened.

Respect isn't always easy to come by — the Miners can attest to that — but the team that has struggled through so many horribly bad seasons has finally received the respect they used to only dream about.

The WAC meetings recently produced their rankings of the WAC football teams for the upcoming season and the Miners were ranked second. A UTEP team picked to finish second — unbelievable. Fresno State was No. 1.

Of course, the Miners did tie TCU for the WAC crown a year ago but a lot of people out there think that was just a fluke. The big test

for the Miners starts now.

They've got the respect, but can they hold on to it?

Remember the 1988 season? The Miners finished the year 10-2 before losing to Bret Favre and Southern Mississippi in the Independence Bowl.

We actually got a little respect before the following year but Bob Stull left for Missouri and the team returned to normal with a dismal season and things continued that way throughout the decade.

So this season is huge for the Miners — they've got to win that opener against the Lobos, they've got to beat Texas Tech on national TV and they've got to put a little scare into Alabama later this season.

If they can do that, they will keep their respect...only now it will come from those across the nation.

Mr. Smith heads north

Do you remember the Joe Smith fiasco last year?

You, know, the Minnesota Timberwolves player who got himself and his team in all that trouble for signing illegal contracts to circumvent the salary cap.

Remember how the commissioner came

down hard on the team? He fined the T-wolves \$3 million and voided Smith's contract. They were forced to forfeit their five first-round draft picks and General Manager Kevin McHale was suspended for the season.

Now those are some heavy-duty penalties. If I were the Minnesota Timberwolves I wouldn't want to hear the name Joe Smith, ever again...too many bad memories.

Well, as it turns out, the T-wolves will hear his name quite often. Because after all that negative publicity, after all those penalties, after all the shame...they've re-signed Joe Smith!

How in the world could they do this? Smith averaged 12 points and seven rebounds with the Detroit Pistons last year — hardly what I'd call an impact player. But I guess the T-wolves didn't learn anything last year.

I mean, just consider the principle of the thing. To go through all that and then put Smith back on the payroll makes very little sense. But then again, this is the NBA, the WWF of team sports.

Where's the beef

I recently took a trip to the west coast and stopped in Phoenix along the way to catch a San Francisco Giants-Arizona Diamondbacks game at the BOB.

There were a lot of great players to see, Randy Johnson was there, Barry Bonds, Jeff Kent, Andres Galarraga, Curt Schilling and Matt Williams, to name a few.

But the guy that stands out to me is the one that will probably be named the league's most valuable player. No, not Barry Bonds...but Luis Gonzalez.

Gonzalez, or Gonzo as he is known, has always been a steady player, good for some clutch hits, he can steal a base and is good in the outfield, but very little power.

Very little power, until now. What I want to know is how in the world is he doing it. Gonzo has been battling Bonds for the league's home run leadership all season. Not many gave him a chance but Gonzo won the home run derby during the all-star break, as well.

I simply don't know where he gets his power from. The lean Gonzalez looks nothing like a home run hitter and yet he is quickly approaching Mark McGwire territory. And you've seen McGwire. He has a set of muscles on top of his muscles.

Sixty home runs and 140 runs batted in seem like a reality for Gonzalez this season, or before this year played in relative obscurity.

Something tells me that won't be a problem next year.

A MUST PLACE... TO Visit!

El Paso

CONNECTION

Rustic Wood Furniture • Pottery
Blankets • Wagons • Unique Gifts

CAST IRON / ALUMINUM

14301 Gateway West (I-10) Exit 37

915 **852-0898** Open Everyday!

The Medicine Shoppe

Steve Mosher, R.Ph./Owner
1330 Fabens St. • Fabens, TX 79838
(915) 764-2739
Inside S & S Big 8 Grocery Store

The Pharmacy That's All About You!®

HAIR SLINGERS

Hair & Nail Salon
Hot Wax Removal
Tanning
Walk-Ins Welcome

852-1655

13899 Horizon Blvd. & Darrington

WHOLESALE LUMBER CO.

748 Horizon Blvd.
Socorro, TX
859-0212

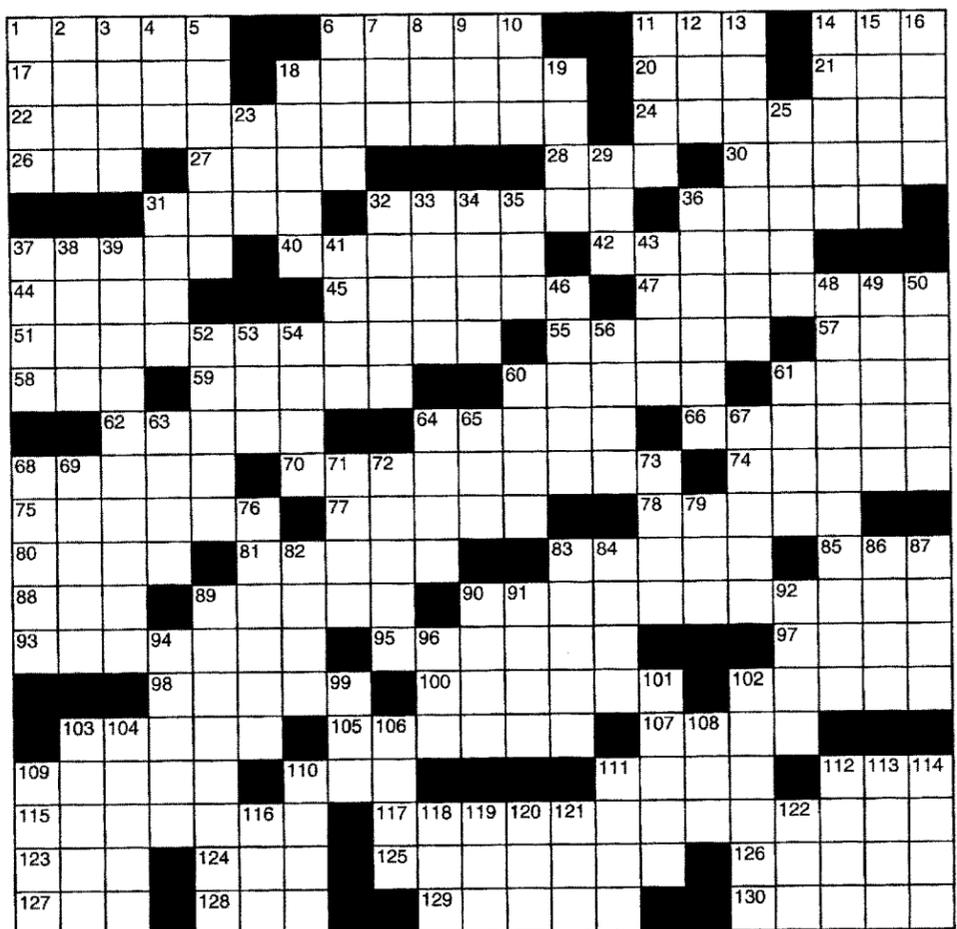
12298 Alameda
Clint, TX
851-2804

206 N. Fabens
Fabens, TX
764-3155



King Super Crossword

- RECREATION**
62 Austerity
64 Austen hero
66 German mark?
ACROSS
1 Ladd or Lane
6 Host a roast
11 Kipling novel
14 Social worker?
17 Conductor Dorati
18 In a perfect world
20 Slangy suffix
21 Norm
22 Start of a remark
by 117 Across
24 Northwestern
capital
26 " _ Day Now" ('62 hit)
27 Stallion's son
28 Pom's perch
30 _ laugh
31 Hound's handle
32 Torah, e.g.
36 '92 US Open
champ
37 What you've gotta
have
40 Acquire
42 Harden
44 _ Romeo
45 Spring holiday
47 Side by side
51 Part 2 of remark
55 Lamb product
57 Vane dir.
58 _ tzu
59 Boiling
60 West African port
61 Like _ of bricks
- 124 Erwin or Gilliam
125 She handed
Theseus a line
126 Break off
127 Endorses
128 Cast a spell
129 Trepidation
130 Neighbor of Oman
- DOWN**
1 Comic Carvey
2 Privy to
3 Part of DA
4 Uh-uh
5 Draw forth
6 Touch up the text
7 Big boys
8 Baseball's Ripken
9 Ransom - Olds
10 Brownie, for one
11 Former surgeon
general
12 Unwell
13 Andy's area
14 Tell's target
15 They get hit on
their heads
16 Hors d'oeuvre
holder
18 Northern
hemisphere?
19 Scream
23 Start to snooze
25 Free-for-all
29 "The Greatest"
31 Munich Mrs.
32 Iowa, e.g.
33 "The Man in
Black"
34 Formal ceremony
35 Like-minded
36 Forester or
Outback
37 Rain hard?
38 Lohengrin's love
39 Priced right
41 Leonine Lahr
43 Highflying agcy.
46 Show one's
feelings
48 Penguins' place
49 Newfoundland's
nose
50 Fractional amount
52 Actor Bruce
53 To and _
54 Galley features
56 _ terrier
60 Pharmacy
measure
61 Jai _
63 Spring flower
64 Twofold
65 Paul's "Exodus"
role
67 The Brainy
Bunch?
68 Lady of the house
69 Spanish city
71 Farm measure
72 Use one's noodle
73 Tiny coin
76 Elan
79 LummoX
82 Desire deified
83 Yoga position
- 84 Pub orders
86 North Carolina
campus
87 Unit of force
89 Plymouth leader
90 Small songbird
91 Mata _
92 Swampland
94 Like Sauternes
96 Mil. address
99 Sweater letter
101 Cosmetician
Lauder
102 "Patriot Games"
author
103 Thwart a blitz
104 Sewell of "A
Knight's Tale"
106 _ vu
108 "Do _ say, not . . ."
109 Commercial award
110 Pivotal point
111 Ain't right?
112 Put on a happy
face
113 In addition
114 Genesis setting
116 When the French
fry
118 Significant years
119 - Tin Tin
120 " _ Doll" ('64 hit)
121 Fabric amts.
122 Charge



Big cat attack

By Don Flood

There's big news on the feline front. According to the Reuters news service, an elderly Canadian man was attacked by his cat while giving his parrot a shower.

If you're like most people, you're probably wondering: What kind of shampoo do you use to wash a parrot anyway? How about a conditioner?

Unfortunately the story left out that important information, so we have no way of knowing until the book and/or movie comes out.

The story also said, "It is not known why Daigle was giving his parrot a shower."

Duh! Obviously the poor man didn't have a bathtub. What do they expect him to do with a dirty parrot — send it to the dry cleaners?

Reportedly four — hat's right — four carloads of police responded to the call. To an attack by a house cat!

Imagine what they'd send out if a deranged rabbit got loose — a whole armored division? (Study question: Does Canada have an army?)

But what turned the formerly friendly feline into Attack Cat?

The answer may be simple jealousy.

This is why the next time you give your parrot a shower, you should also invite your other pets to join the fun.

(Note: Most veterinarians — well over 60 percent — do not recommend taking horses — and indeed livestock of any kind — into the shower with you. Even those cute little ponies.)

Also, some states may have laws concerning the number of animals you are allowed to bathe with.

By all means, call the local police department and ask, "Is it all right if I take my cat, bird and my pet snake into the bathtub with me?"

Don't worry about bothering them. They'll be glad you called. They may even stop by for a visit.

But if, for any reason, you'd prefer a private shower with just you and your parrot, you must do something to keep your cat occupied.

Fortunately, the burden of entertaining cats has become much easier with the release of the "Cat Adventure Video."

This is not a joke, but a real advertisement that appeared in the Sunday magazine section.

Here's how the ad explained it: "Videos specifically produced for cats are now keeping an ever-growing feline audience entertained while their owners head to work, to play, or simply to get things done around the house."

Boy, I can dig where they're coming from.

Just last weekend, I planned to trim the bushes, fix the toilet, re-finish the floors, build a deck out back and rearrange my books according to the Dewey Decimal System.

But guess what? That's right — it's all the cat's fault. How are you supposed to get anything done when you have to entertain the cat!

And don't expect cats to watch just anything. They need their own videos.

As one of the satisfied customers in the ad said, "Regular TV really doesn't do the job."

Hey, no kidding. I can't even get our cat to watch HBO.

But come to think of it, maybe that Attack Cat had been watching too much of "The Sopranos."

(c) 2001 King Features Synd., Inc.

NOTICE OF EFFECTIVE TAX RATE

2001 Property Tax Rates in El Paso County Emergency Services District #2

This notice concerns 2001 property tax rates for the **El Paso County Emergency Services District #2**. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$1,479,966
Last year's debt taxes	-0-
Last year's total taxes	1,479,966
Last year's tax base	1,479,966,014
Last year's total tax rate	.100000/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$1,482,200
+This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	1,478,591,235
=This year's effective tax rate	.100244/\$100
x1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings	.103251/\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function, tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$1,482,200
+This year's adjusted tax base	1,478,591,235
=This year's effective operating rate	.100244/\$100
x1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	.108263/\$100
+This year's debt rate	-0-/\$100
=This year's rollback rate	.108263/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the El Paso County Emergency Services District #2 adopts a 2001 tax rate equal to the effective rate of **.100244** per \$100 of value, taxes would **increase** compared to 2000 taxes by **\$55,901**.

SCHEDULE A: Unencumbered Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will be left in the unit's property tax accounts at the end of the fiscal year. These balances are not encumbered by a corresponding debt obligation.

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$-0-
Debt Service (I&S)	-0-

SCHEDULE B: 2001 Debt Service

The unit plans to pay the following amounts for long-term debts that are secured by property taxes. These amounts will be paid from property tax revenues (or additional sales tax revenues, if applicable).

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
NONE	\$-0-	\$-0-	\$-0-	\$-0-

Total required for 2001 debt service	\$-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from other resources	-0-
-Excess collections last year	-0-
=Total to be paid from taxes in 2001	-0-
+Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2001	-0-
=Total Debt Levy	-0-

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rate calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at the City of El Paso Tax Office located at the intersection of Durango and Franklin streets.

Name of person preparing this notice: Juan F. Sandoval

Title: Tax Assessor/Collector

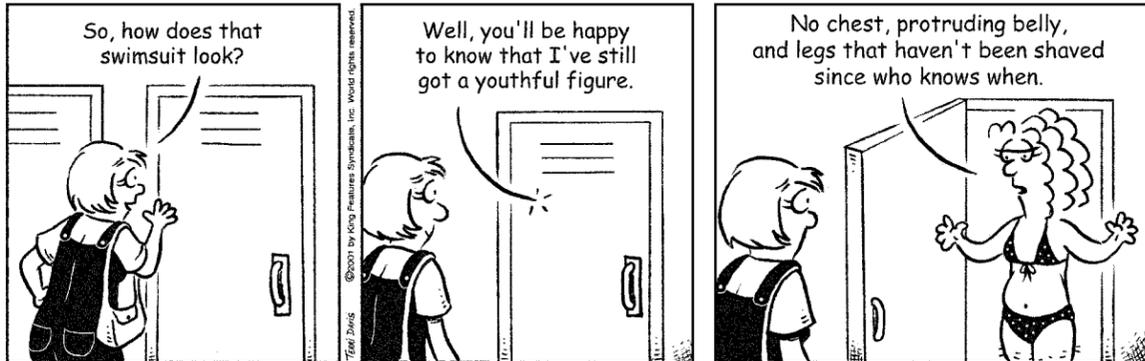
Date prepared: August 1, 2001

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



GOT A LIFE By Terri Davis



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



YOUR CAR MAY BE THE CURE FOR Cancer

Donating your car, truck, newer RV or newer boat to the American Cancer Society may be tax deductible and may save lives!

- We do all the work
- Year end tax advantage
- No cost to you

Don't delay! Call toll free... Cars For A Cure
1-888-CAR-5500

Internet at <http://www.cancer.org>



Hope. Progress. Answers.

Put us to work for you.
852-3235

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

Newspapers work!



Perry

From Page 4

coordinate services that address a variety of border issues through Senate Bill 326, which creates a 13-state agency unit to study and propose recommendations on key international issues that Texas faces with Mexico. This group will study and propose solutions to health care needs along the border region.

This multi-state agency coordination will also lead to development of a "Texas-Mexico Commerce and International Relations Plan" to address key international issues, and to increase and improve trade with

Mexico and other U.S. states by identifying barriers and making legislative recommendations.

To help improve border infrastructure, we approved the use of \$175 million in bond financing to construct roads in Texas colonias. This funding tool does require voter approval. If approved by voters on November 6th, Proposition 2 will amend the Texas Constitution and make bond funds available to construct the needed roads in the colonias of Texas. How can we expect our children to reach for the stars when they can't even make it to the classroom because of inadequate roads?

In addition, border counties have been given access to the State Infra-

structure Bank to help finance road projects in their areas.

Senate Bill 192 requires Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to consider border ports of entry in its highway transportation and funding plans. The legislation also addresses concerns of the border by encouraging metropolitan planning organizations to include international bridge projects in their improvement plans.

My first appointee, Secretary of State Henry Cuellar — a former state representative from Laredo — continues to do an outstanding job as the state's Border Czar. Since taking office in January, he has expanded that office's Border Affairs division to

better address issues that are unique to residents living along the border. He has actively promoted partnership with private and public entities, such as the Texas National Guard, Texas Young Lawyers Association, and private foundations, to address issues on the border.

My ongoing commitment to the border region of the state remains unwavering, planted in the staunch belief that if the border of Texas succeeds, then Texas succeeds. While there is still work to be done, we can all be proud at how much was accomplished to help the border in this session. The major steps taken will help provide border Texans the foundation for success in the 21st Century.



"Wipe that smile off your face. You have 'Happy Meal' written all over you."

WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Clouds and sun.	An evening shower; otherwise, partly cloudy.	Clouds and sun; it may t-storm in the afternoon.	Clouds and sun; a t-storm cannot be ruled out.	Times of sun and clouds.	Clouds and sun.	A blend of sun and clouds.	Sun and clouds; a stray t-storm later.
▲ 92°	▼ 70°	▲ 90° ▼ 70°	▲ 90° ▼ 68°	▲ 90° ▼ 70°	▲ 90° ▼ 68°	▲ 90° ▼ 68°	▲ 88° ▼ 68°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	8	High
Friday	8	High
Saturday	8	High
Sunday	8	High
Monday	9	Very High
Tuesday	7	High
Wednesday	7	High

REAL FEEL TEMP™

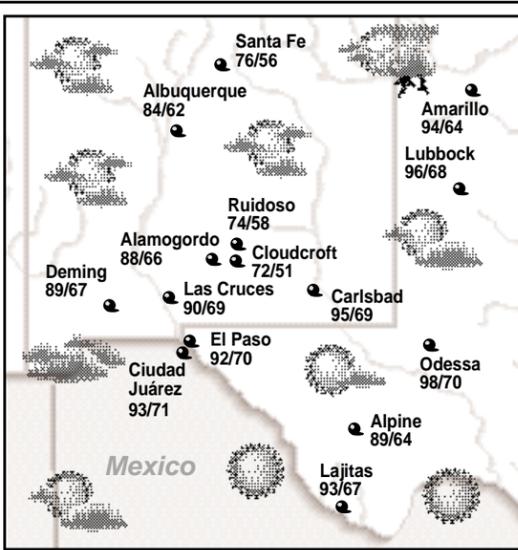
A composite of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine intensity, cloudiness, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

Thursday	94°
Friday	90°
Saturday	90°
Sunday	91°
Monday	93°
Tuesday	86°
Wednesday	86°

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	92	70
Canutillo	93	71
Clint	91	70
E. Montana	92	70
Fabens	91	70
Horizon	93	71
San Elizario	89	70
Socorro	91	70
Tornillo	91	70
Vinton	93	71

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



TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	84/62/pc	82/62/pc	86/64/pc	88/64/pc	90/66/pc
Atlanta	92/72/s	90/72/pc	88/72/pc	90/72/pc	90/72/t
Atlantic City	92/72/s	92/72/t	88/68/t	85/64/sh	85/60/t
Austin/San Antonio	100/74/pc	98/74/pc	96/74/s	96/76/s	96/74/s
Baltimore	98/76/s	94/72/pc	90/68/c	92/70/pc	86/60/pc
Boston	93/72/pc	88/70/t	82/66/c	80/64/pc	78/60/sh
Chicago	88/66/t	82/60/pc	82/62/pc	82/62/pc	84/66/pc
Dallas/Ft. Worth	98/80/s	96/78/pc	96/78/pc	98/78/s	96/72/pc
Denver	80/54/pc	80/52/pc	82/54/pc	84/58/pc	86/58/pc
Flagstaff	72/51/pc	75/51/pc	77/51/c	76/51/c	75/48/c
Houston	96/76/pc	96/76/pc	96/76/pc	96/74/pc	94/74/pc
Kansas City	93/66/pc	85/62/pc	87/64/pc	87/64/pc	85/60/pc
Las Vegas	104/78/pc	104/78/s	102/78/s	100/78/s	102/69/s
Miami	90/78/pc	90/78/pc	90/80/pc	90/80/pc	92/75/c
Minneapolis	82/62/sh	80/60/pc	82/62/pc	82/64/c	84/64/c
New Orleans	90/76/pc	90/78/pc	92/78/s	90/76/s	92/74/t
New York City	96/78/s	90/72/pc	86/70/pc	88/72/pc	84/62/pc
Philadelphia	98/76/s	92/72/pc	88/68/pc	90/70/pc	86/60/pc
Phoenix	104/82/pc	104/84/pc	106/82/s	106/84/pc	106/82/s
Portland	90/58/s	86/58/s	82/56/pc	82/56/pc	84/56/pc
San Francisco	66/54/pc	66/54/pc	68/56/pc	68/56/pc	70/56/pc
Seattle	82/58/s	80/58/s	74/54/pc	72/54/pc	74/54/pc
Tucson	98/74/pc	98/76/pc	100/74/pc	100/74/s	102/76/s
Washington, DC	98/78/s	94/74/pc	90/72/pc	94/74/pc	88/64/pc

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms,

AGRICULTURE

No changes in the overall pattern are expected over the next several days. Each afternoon, a thunderstorm will develop over a few locations. Up to 0.25 of an inch of rain can be expected with a thunderstorm. Most locations will stay dry, however. Relative humidity will fall to 25 percent in the afternoon. Wind southeast at 12-25 mph.

All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2001

THE EVOLUTION OF YOUR FAVORITE TOY

JS63 Walk-Behind Mower

- 6.0-hp engine
- Three-speed self-propelled drive system
- Seven cutting heights

LT1335 Lawn Tractor

- 13-hp engine
- 38-inch mowing deck
- 5-speed shift-on-the-go transmission

SST18 Lawn Tractor

- 18-hp, V-Twin engine
- Two-pedal automatic transmission
- 48-inch mower deck
- Zero-turn radius with power steering

As we've grown, so too have our needs for bigger, tougher, and more powerful machines. Well John Deere has the perfect solution for any big kid's lawn care needs. Stop in at a John Deere dealer near you and see exactly what we have to offer the little kid in all of us.

www.JohnDeere.com

To Locate A John Deere Dealer Near You, Call:
888-MOW-PROS (Toll Free 888-669-7767)

*See your local John Deere dealer for special offers and financing. Subject to participating retailer.

NOTHING RUNS LIKE A DEERE®