

# WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 28, No. 40

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

OCTOBER 4, 2001

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Courier closed

The *West Texas County Courier* has published two issues early this month. The issues dated Oct. 4 and Oct. 11, 2001 went to press on Sept. 25. The *Courier's* office closed beginning Wednesday, Sept. 26 and will open again on Monday, Oct. 15, 2001. Information: 852-3235.

### Be a mentor

Clint ISD is sponsoring a program called Volunteers in Action, with an emphasis on the Making A Difference Mentoring Program. Mentors meet with their assigned middle school student once weekly for approximately 45 minutes. Requirements are: a concern for the needs of children, an understanding heart, and a willingness to be supportive and a good role model. Mentors may help a young child develop character, competence and an appreciation for his or her value as a person. For information, call Denise Brewster at 856-3882.

### Read Around The World

The average child growing up in a middle class US family has been read to for 1,000 to 1,700 hours in one-on-one picture book settings. In contrast, the average child growing up in a low-income family has only been exposed to 25 hours of one-on-one reading. Can you imagine the influence this has on the academic achievements of these children, for the better or the worse? That is why the International Boards of Key Club, Circle-K and Kiwanis have committed to an annual event called Read Around The World, urging all clubs to conduct an event that shares the joy of reading with children. This is the first time that all three Boards have committed to an organization-wide Kiwanis family service project. This project will focus on October 27 and the days leading up to that Saturday. Clubs will be urged to plan and schedule a reading event anytime during October. Kiwanis International will provide guidance to Clubs willing to support this service project. In the past, several of our local elementary schools have provided opportunities for us to read to the children. Do you remember how much fun it was to read to your own kids? This may be another way to Make a Difference.

### In other news

■ Grab your binoculars and meet Audubon experts Betty and Weldon Fisbeck for a walking tour of bird "hot spots" in the Upper Valley on Oct. 7. Persons interested in attending should call 581-0174 or 587-2580 for meeting locations and times.

■ Vendors are sought to take part in the St. Timothy Lutheran Church annual Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 10 at 11050 Montwood. Organizers are particularly interested in hand-crafted items for sale. Tables are \$20. Call Mary at 598-6821 or Betty at 591-3003.

■ The Fall Games Special Olympics

See BRIEFS, Page 4

*Trouble causes some people to go to pieces; others to come to their senses.*

— Quips and Quotes

## Texas livestock health officials find cattle TB outside restricted zones in El Paso and Hudspeth counties

AUSTIN — The Texas counties of Hudspeth and El Paso are no longer the only areas affected by cattle tuberculosis, according to the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC).

A beef cattle herd in south central Texas has been found to be infected with cattle tuberculosis (TB), and Texas livestock health officials are seeking infection.

The disease, *Cobacterium* *pasteurii*, can be herd when an infected animal coughs, releasing mucus onto feed, or into the air by nearby cows.

While cattle considered a health, the designating "free" zone has benefits for cattle

"In November of 2000, all of the U.S. — with the exception of Texas' El Paso and Hudspeth Counties, and the state of Michigan — was recognized by the USDA as tuberculosis-free. If we find that the TB infection has not spread beyond the animals we are tracing from the (newly discovered) infected herd, the USDA may allow Texas to maintain its accredited-free TB designation," said Dr. Terry Conger, TAHC's state epidemiologist.

"The investigation (of the new cases) began early this summer, when a federal veterinarian, conducting a routine exam in a slaughter facility, detected lesions in a carcass that were compatible with those of TB," said Dr. Linda Logan, Texas state veterinarian and executive director of the TAHC, the state's livestock health regulatory agency.

Dr. Terry Conger said intensive efforts will be continued to determine the source of the TB infection in the central Texas beef herd. He explained that the rancher who owned the cattle had purchased animals from several herds during the past five years. Three of those source herds have tested negative. He said the remaining herds will be tested before the end of September.

"Depopulating an infected herd is the only sure way to eradicate cattle tuberculosis, a disease that 80 years ago affected nearly five percent of the nation's cattle herds," said Dr. Conger.

He said the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services, Veterinary Services (USDA-APHIS-VS) has

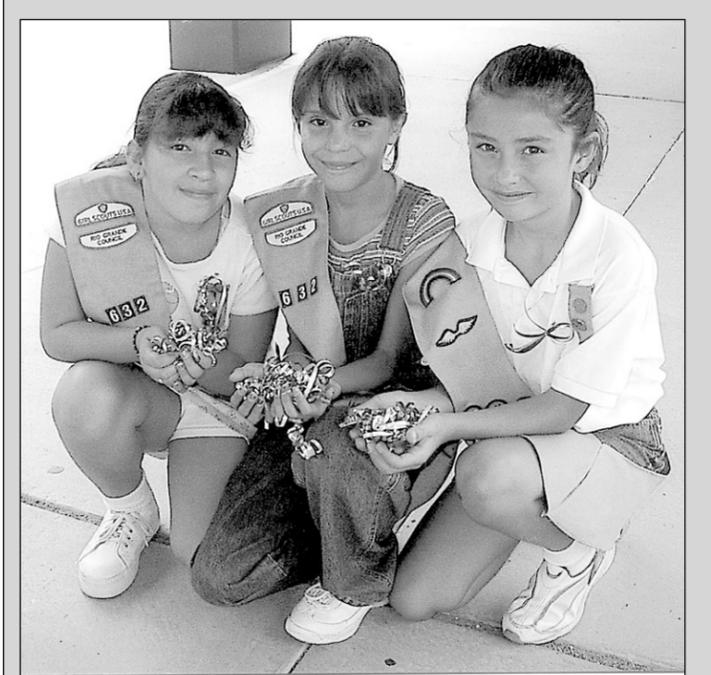
See TB, Page 8



This cow is in an El Paso County herd known to be TB free.

caused by *Mycobacterium bovis*, can spread within a herd of infected animals. The bacteria-laden mucus is inhaled

TB is no longer a threat to human health. A "TB-free" zone has huge economic benefits for producers.



CHILDREN OF AMERICA — Stephanie Ramirez, Erica Martinez and Sara Cenausky of Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande Troop #632 hold ribbons they made and are distributing to classmates and the community.

## In wake of tragedy, Girl Scouts share hope

By Kerri Moe  
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — The tragedy that struck our nation is difficult enough for anyone to comprehend, especially a child. When Girl Scout Leader Juron Cenausky met with her troop on Tuesday evening, Sept. 11, her girls had seen the news reports of the terrorist attacks.

She said they had many questions, but they also wanted to help. "Even as a small group, the girls thought they could help — that they could make a difference," Cenausky said. "They decided to pass out the red, white and blue ribbons in order to show the community spirit and national unity with the idea that their efforts could spread hope during this difficult time."

So far, the girls have given out hundreds of ribbons to classmates and visitors to their school, Benito Martinez Elementary, where they are fifth graders.

They also have attached them to car antennas at grocery stores. "We'd like everyone in America to do this and show their support of our country and the people who lost their families," said Anna Cuellar, a 10-year-old in Troop #632.

## Unique animal care program helps low-income elderly keep their pets

By Michelle J. Brown  
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — When the Bradfords got their high-spirited terrier mix puppy 11 years ago, they never dreamed she would one day save their lives. Lloyd Bradford, who is now 93, had fallen and was unconscious. His wife Margie returned home to a very excitable Daisy Dog, not understanding what she was desperately trying to tell her by barking wildly and racing back and forth from the front door to the bathroom. Realizing something was amiss, Margie discovered Lloyd laying on the bathroom door. He had been bleeding heavily with stomach ulcers as well as a bad cut received in the fall.

"I truly believed he would've died if Daisy hadn't alerted me," recalls Margie. After an ambulance rushed Lloyd to the hospital, he was able to recover and returned home five days later. "That could've been the end of us. She saved both our lives that day."

For 11 years the Bradfords have lived in a tiny apartment in the low-income elderly housing complex on Stonewall in Northeast El Paso. They barely receive enough money each month to keep themselves going, much less care for little blond Daisy. That's when a friend referred Margie to TherapetEldercare of El Paso.

Not to be confused with an animal placement service, Therapet is a non-profit organization that provides food and veterinary services to the companion indoor pets of qualified, low-income elderly in El Paso County.

"Daisy is our world," said Margie, who is in her late 60s. The three of them go for daily walks, which helps keep them all healthy. "She's our family. She has spent her whole life in here taking care of us. Without Therapet we couldn't keep her."

Therapet volunteers deliver a month's supply of food at a time and a van-equipped veterinarian provides Daisy with her vaccinations and medical care right at home.

The Bradfords are a perfect example of the hundreds of seniors Therapet has helped for the last 18 years. Committed to the belief that love for one's pet can be excellent therapy for the loneliness of many low-income elderly citizens, Therapet Eldercare promotes the human-animal companion bond, helping seniors like the Bradfords keep their pets in the family.

Therapet operates with veterinarians and volunteer drivers who together offer friendship to pre-qualified program participants while providing food and veterinary care for the companion dogs, cats, ferrets and birds. Pet support includes spaying and neutering, heartworm prevention, dental treatment, vaccinations and

any other needed services.

To further its goals to reach and assist as many El Paso elderly as possible, Therapet is actively seeking dozens of referrals from senior centers, churches, veterinary clinics, directors of low-income senior housing complexes and other elderly-oriented organizations.

"Since most Therapet clients have no family and often are homebound, these pets are truly their lives," said Sandy Connor, Therapet's Program Coordinator. "Their animals are what keep them going every day."

Therapet's programs are funded exclusively by foundation gifts, corporate grants, individual donations and memorials — gifts made in honor of deceased friends, family or pets of the same.

To participate in the program, clients must live in El Paso County, have incomes at or below the poverty level — call 581-3789 for specifics. Participants must be at least 60 years of age, live alone or only with a spouse (no other supporting family members), and the program pets must be limited to two and be true companion pets. No yard guard dogs, chained animals or outdoor cats are accepted.

"We have the volunteers, we have the food, we have the veterinary medical services," said Connor. "Now we need the clients to go with

See PETS, Page 8



## One perspective

By Francis Shrum

# Candy, cars and money

**HORIZON** — A lot of grannys nowadays are also mom to their grandchildren.

There are about 5.6 million American grandparents whose grandchildren live under their roof, and 2.3 million of them are solely responsible for the grandchild's care.

These figures were taken before the attack on the World Trade Center in New York took many of the best and brightest among us — young working parents with children at home — so the numbers went up after Sept. 11, 2001.

I love my two grandboys to distraction, but I don't want to raise them, thank you very much. By the time an afternoon with them is over, I have only vague memories of energy.

I'm glad to see their mothers arrive.

Thankfully, both my grandboys have dedicated moms so that I don't have to deal with the burden that a growing number of grandmothers do.

It's a relatively new phenomenon, fast growing over the past 20 years. The primary reason it happens in America is "emotional immaturity of some parents, coupled with a decline in two-parent families; problems related to drugs; and the AIDS epidemic," according to the Grandparent Caregiver Law Center at Hunter College's Center on Aging in New York.

A new factor, tragically, is terrorism.

It is estimated that about 1.5 percent of people in this nation over 30 years of age are grandparents caring for their grandchildren.

Of those, the largest number — 67 percent — are rural and mostly Southern, and 36 percent are in it for the long-haul, for five years or more.

I don't know if that means that rural Southern grandparents have bigger hearts, but it could be. The study on that hasn't been done yet.

The implications of raising a

grandchild are mind-boggling, especially if you have taken undue advantage of your grandparent status.

Our youngest grandboy is only six months old, so I can get away with whispering in his precious little ear that Granny is willing to share her money, cars and candy. My oldest grandboy, however, is almost four years old and he's pretty sharp, so I had to quit being so specific in my promises.

When he comes over for dinner, though, I don't care a flip if he misbehaves at the table — short of throwing food — and he plays with things of mine that nobody else does. He leaves with seashells, quarters and Jolly Ranchers in his pockets. Grandparenting is great.

If I were suddenly responsible for his education, table manners, bedtime and health insurance, our relationship would undergo a major make-over. I'd probably regret having been over-indulgent.

I have to take my hat off to grandparents who accept that responsibility. They are beginning the race well behind the starting line, loaded down with the emotional and probably financial baggage left behind by the death or other incapacitation of the child's biological parents.

They have to learn — again! — how to make potty training relevant, new math, and navigating within an ever-changing public school system. And they have to do it with less energy and often fewer financial resources than they had when raising their own children.

The success with which many grandparents do this is equally admirable. We met a child at camp this summer who recently returned to her dad after living quite awhile with her grandmother. She cried every night because she wanted to go back.

I don't think it was candy, cars and money that she was missing.



"MAYBE I SHOULD GO AFTER SOMETHING EASIER...LIKE A GREAT WHITE SHARK!"

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## Bonilla ranked among top 10 most powerful lawmakers in Congress

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Representative Henry Bonilla, a nine-year Republican lawmaker, was recently named a "Top Ten Lawmaker in Congress." He is seen here with President George W. Bush and other Republican congressional colleagues at a ceremony to officially repeal the "ergonomics" regulation — from left is Rep. Roy Blunt, Sen. Mike Enzi, Rep. Bonilla, Rep. John Boehner, Rep. Ann Northrup, Sen. Don Nickles and Sen. Tim Hutchinson. Bonilla played an instrumental role in overturning the legislation deemed as flawed because it required businesses to regulate the working environment of their employees within their

own homes. The top ten "power list" was compiled by the website "yourcongress.com." The list was based on the importance of a member's committee assignments and elected leadership positions in Congress. Other members listed in the top ten include: Speaker Dennis Hastert, Majority Whip Tom DeLay, Majority Leader Dick Armey, Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, Appropriations Committee Chairman Bill Young and Energy and Commerce Chairman Billy Tauzin. On the website, power is defined as "the ability to get things done and influence other people's ability to get things done."



~~REPUBLICAN~~  
~~DEMOCRAT~~  
~~WHITE~~  
~~BLACK~~  
~~LATINO~~  
~~ASIAN~~  
~~MAN~~  
~~WOMAN~~  
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~~MUSLIM~~

MARGULIES  
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# Sambrano Elementary gets three-year \$390,000 grant

By Don Woodyard  
 Courier Staff Writer

"Wild About Learning" is the motto of Sambrano Elementary School in the San Elizario Independent School District.

That motto took on a new meaning at the rescheduled Sept. 17 meeting of the SEISD board of trustees as Sambrano principal Nancy Swanson outlined a \$390,000 grant that not only improves both staff and student skills, but also makes parents and community leaders a part of the education equation.

Funds from a three-year "Improving Teaching and Learning" grant through the Texas Education Agency (TEA) pays for a literacy teacher-leader as well books for staff development and academic materials, Swanson explained. The purpose of the grant, according to a program overview, is that it "helps build the capacity of schools to provide high quality teaching and learning for all students."

Professional staff development is the backbone of the program throughout the three years, she adds. Parents and community leaders are brought into the picture, according to the overview, "to focus on the importance of their role in systemic education reform K-16." For students, the emphasis is on writing in the first year; the second year, reading; the third year, math and science.

Connie Loya, who was a third-grade bilingual teacher at Sambrano, has been named the grant's literacy leader, and she is receiving on-going training through UT El Paso. She will provide direct assistance to teachers in implementing provisions of the grant.

Assistant superintendent Maria Nietas gave the official results of district and campus rankings based on TAAS (Texas Assessment of Academic Skills) testing. SEISD is ranked "Acceptable" by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). This had been previously reported in the July board meeting. No school was given "Recognized" status this year.

Nietas said there would be more emphasis in reading and other areas

to bolster scores. A drop in reading scores caused the high school to drop from "Recognized" to "Acceptable" status. On a positive note, she said district campuses have made "significant gains" academically. Nietas' remarks echoed those of Robert Longoria at the July board meeting.

Then director of special programs, he said, "We have made great strides. We are moving in the right direction. It is looking positive."

There was lengthy discussion in two areas.

- Damage to tile floor in the cafeteria in the new Borrego Elementary School.

- Possible adjustments to bus routes in the district.

Application of a special coating to the floor apparently caused the tile to buckle. Facilities director Arturo Morales brought the problem to light during his report. Board members raised concerns about tile warranties because of the coating. The district will be seeking compensation and checking on warranties, said Phillip Cortez, the district's public information officer.

Superintendent Mike Quatrini came to the board for guidance on qualifying and non-qualifying bus routes in district and meeting the needs of students and requests from parents for busing their children. "Where do we draw the line in terms of distance for pickup of students?" Quatrini asked the trustees. The board tabled action.

In other action, the board:

- Declined to approve a curriculum management audit because of the expense and because the district is coming due for a state-mandated curriculum audit.

- Chose not to go with state health plan, preferring to stay with its own.

Nancy Jacquez, a pre-kindergarten teacher, was named Teacher of the Month. Middle school custodian Felix Rangel was named Employee of the Month.

Quatrini presented a statewide Media Honor Roll plaque to this reporter for the *West Texas County Courier*, "for working with the district in a very positive and professional manner."

# We the People



KEVIN MYERS ©2001 THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER

## View from the porch By Linda Mussehl



### Cousin Twyla

Cousin Twyla came to visit the other day. I always enjoy her visits. She's one of a kind.

No, I take that back. She's one of a type, an archetype. John Graves, in *Goodbye to a River*, described her without ever meeting Twyla, but knowing — and honoring — her and her type of woman: "...with black hair pulled back on the sides of her head, and sunnarrowed eyes — the big-framed, gaunt breed of woman that farmers and ranchers so often pick to mother their sons after they've finished with the pinched pretties of the honkytonks...In the country they still stand straight, and are prized."

That about fits Twyla, except for the hair. Twyla's sister is convinced that she knows how to give good home permanents. And Twyla is polite enough to let her sister keep on thinking she's right.

Anyhow, Twyla pulled her truck up and honked the horn for country courtesy. She fiddled around for a while by the truck to give me time to come out and control the dogs.

Twyla took a four-foot length of two-inch galvanized pipe from the truck bed and shoved it back into the rifle rack in the cab.

"Been killing snakes?" I asked.

"No," Twyla replied. "Teachin' school."

"On my way over here, I came up on a car pulled off with a flat tire. Two young women was standing around, fluttering and looking at their flat. Car was full of kids — them babies was hot and hungry and crying. And them two able-bodied young ladies was just waiting for some man to come along and change their tire for them.

"The girls was wearin' little short-shorts and halter tops that might have got them more than they was bargainin' for, so I stopped and held me a little roadside seminar: Tire Changing 101.

"I got out my little cheater pipe and set 'em to digging out their spare, jack and tire iron. They was whinin' and grumblin', but they followed my instructions just as nice as you please. They was amazed at how easy them bolts broke loose using the cheater. By the time they was done, they was all sweaty and dirty, but sorta proud of themselves for changing their own tire.

"Before I left, I told 'em to get themselves a cheater pipe to carry in the car. 'Change your own tires, girls, and buy your own drinks,' I said. 'No point in strandin' yourself way out here waitin' for some man to come along and do for you. Or do to you. Besides, a while back if you'd bought your own drinks, maybe now you girls wouldn't have that car full of babies crying there.'

"They said thank you for the tire changing lesson and the advice just as nice as you please," Twyla said. "Seemed pretty grateful and all."

I couldn't help but think that I'd be pretty polite and respectful too, with Twyla standing over me alongside the road, twirling her little cheater pipe.

## Tiguas donate \$5,000 to improve Clint ISD eateries

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — The Ysleta del Sur Tigua Indian Tribal Council recently donated an estimated \$5,000 to the Clint Independent School District for renovations and improvements to school cafeterias.

"We are going to be able to do some really neat things with the money, including adding restaurant style signs to some of the cafeteria facilities to make it more fun for the kids," Clint ISD Superintendent Sylvester Perez said. "We really appreciate the support from the Tiguas and their donation."

Mike Sullivan, the district's director of support services, said the donated funds would be used equally by all 10 of the district's schools to brighten the environments of the cafeterias.

"We believe that there are three things that can make the cafeteria a more enticing place to eat," Sullivan said. "The first change we can make is the look and taste of the food, mak-

ing the presentations more appealing to the students. Secondly, we can change the customer service environment making it friendlier and more pleasant for the students. And last, we can change the physical environment of the cafeterias making them more like a cafe, bistro, or diner, so that the environment entices the student to participate in what we are serving them."

The district's director of support services said he believes that with these environmental changes, Clint ISD will see an increase in the participation numbers during lunch at its campuses.

"We feel that this is critical due to the fact that the students will be moving into Provision 2, a free lunch program at the end of September," Sullivan said.

The district has appointed a committee at each campus and is embarking on the task of including the students in the naming of the cafe at their school and contributing to the theme that the new name imparts.

**Rural districts make good use of cultural gold mine**  
*Over 1500 area students will participate in Chamizal annual festival*

EL PASO COUNTY — Over 1500 students from 12 area elementary and middle schools will participate in this year's Chamizal Festival Student Education Day on Friday, Oct. 5 at the Memorial, according to Festival Coordinator Virginia Ness.

Participating schools for the 2001 Chamizal Festival include East Montana Middle School, O'Donnell Elementary in Fabens, Horizon Heights Elementary in Horizon City.

"Essentially, we hold a mini-festival designed for the students," Ness said.

"Numerous performing artists will stage back-to-back 20-minute presentations at two performance tents, while artisans and participating museums will demonstrate traditional crafts such as leatherwork, guitar making, tinwork, chile stringing, piñata and flower making," she added.

"Our Student Education Day has become a mainstay of the Chamizal Festival format. Teachers, students, performers, artisans and staff tell us that everyone benefits," Ness said.

Student Education Day is serious business and requires strong administrative support for the teachers who see the possibilities. Principals must lend their support and student/adult supervisory ratios are high to maximize the experience.

For this reason, numbers are limited and schools must now compete by submitting lesson plans and showing how the program will fit into their educational plans.

The goal of one participating school will be for all fourth graders attending the festival to gain an understanding of the affect our unique culture has had on this region.

Another school notes that developing cultural awareness and understanding historical perspective are

two of their objectives. Yet another school plans to have their students identify the multicultural diversity of performers and artisans as related to music, dance, art and literature. They will also listen and observe to enhance appreciation of the arts and they will be required to gather information from a variety of sources for hands-on activities.

While this year's program is now closed to new applicants, interested educators are invited to submit applications for the 2002 Chamizal Festival. For additional information call 915 532-7273 ext. 125.

The Chamizal Festival will open to the public on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 6 and 7. Festival hours are 1-7 p.m.

Chamizal National Memorial, El Paso's National Park, is located at 800 South San Marcial between Bowie High School and the Bridge of the Americas. Admission is free.

**Individual Canutillo ISD campuses awarded for academic achievements**

**By Don Woodyard**  
*Courier Staff Writer*

CANUTILLO — Four schools and their principals were honored with plaques for academic achievement during the rescheduled Sept. 18 meeting of the board of trustees of the Canutillo Independent School District, a Texas Education Agency "Recognized" district.

The awards were based on TAAS (Texas Assessment of Academic Skills) scores achieved. Previously announced, the schools were Canutillo Elementary, Dav- enport Elementary and Canutillo Middle schools for earning "Recognized" status. Damian Elementary attained "Exemplary" honors.

Still another honor went to Vicki Davis, assistant superintendent for student performance. Superintendent Charles Hart presented her the district's new Exemplary Employees Award.

In other business, Dan Roseveare, assistant vice president for the Dallas-based investment banking firm of First Southwest Company, presented financial data on the Instructional Facilities Allotment (IFA) funding with which the district will be building its new high school. He praised the district for achieving an A-minus bond credit rating. The higher the credit rating, the lower the interest rate and lower debt service.

Dr. John Kessinger, assistant superintendent for operations and planning, said negotiations were under way for the purchase of land for construction of the new high school adjacent to the Northwest Campus of El Paso Community College.

A Houston architectural firm will be holding public hearings to get input from the community on what it wants in a high school. That information will be turned over to Dimensions in Architecture, an El Paso firm that will design the new structure based on the views of the community.

Kessinger expects site preparation could begin after the first of the year.

He also said completion dates for the new band room and renovation of the new administration building is mid-November.

In other action, the board approved:

- Purchase of three new school buses for \$149,456
- An agreement between the district and Rio Bravo Therapy Services for providing Therapeutic Horse Riding services
- Recommendation not to join state healthcare benefits program

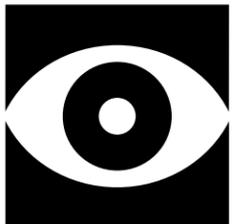
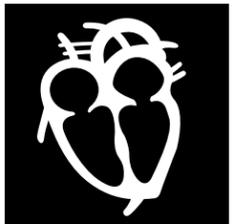
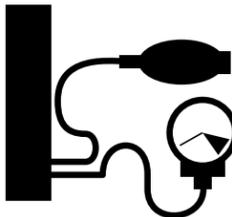
The board also asked the administration to identify and bring to them options for lowering admission fees for football games and other sporting events.

**Briefs**

From Page 1

Texas Area-19 for the greater El Paso area will kick off Friday, Nov. 2 at the Ft. Bliss and Biggs Gym with over 200 athletes participating in three different sports. Sponsored by the Southwest Dairy Farmers, the event will run through Saturday, Nov. 3, featuring powerlifting, bowling and softball. Over 1,400 athletes in El Paso train and prepare year-round to participate. For more information and scheduling call 532-1795.

■ The body of John Henry Carter was found on Sept. 3 behind a dumpster at 5501 Alameda. He was wrapped in a white blanket. Law enforcement officials are seeking community information regarding this case. Call Crime Stoppers at 566-8477 if you have information. A cash reward is offered for credible evidence, and callers may remain anonymous.



**Horizon City Health Fair**

**SPONSORED BY**  
 Horizon City Lion's Club  
 Del Sol Medical Center  
 Oz Glaze Senior Center

**9 A.M. - 3 P.M. ON SATURDAY, OCT. 20, 2001**  
 Oz Glaze Senior Center  
 13969 Veny Webb  
 852-0062

**FREE SCREENINGS**

- Blood Sugar\*
- Blood Pressure
- Vision
- Cholesterol
- Wound Assessment
- Hearing and Speech

\* Participants are encouraged to wait 2 hours after eating before they have their blood sugar tested.

**FLU SHOTS**

- Provided by Pro Action
- Cost is \$10.00 - 65 and older (Medicare accepted), \$15.00 - under 65

**INFORMATION**

- Cancer
- Maternity
- Hip, Knee, and Shoulder Pain

**FINGERPRINTING**

**Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Registration**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**Horizon City Lion's Club:**  
**852-1988**  
**Del Sol Medical Center:**  
**594-5938**



## SISD official updates service club on district projects

HORIZON CITY — Mary Benham, an Assistant Superintendent with the Socorro ISD, made a presentation to the Horizon City Kiwanis Club recently, providing an update of district activities.

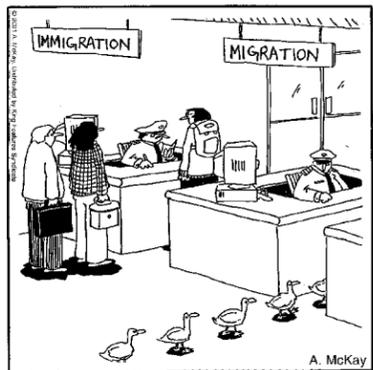
Benham pointed out that the final school tax increase this year from \$1.53 to \$1.55 was lower than the expected increase, primarily due to a higher than expected State contribution.

She said that \$15 million of the expected debt of \$21 million this year will come from the State, leaving 6 million to be raised from taxpayers. Concerning the maintenance and operations budget, Benham noted that for every dollar raised by taxes, the district receives three dollars from the State.

Student growth is expected to continue at six percent per year, an increase of about 1,600 annually over the next few years. Two new schools are on line for 2002, to be followed by several more, including a high school, in the succeeding year. New homes and new residents will inevitably require even more schools later.

The District is considering a new Administrative Center, large enough to include functions and offices currently at separate sites. The current Socorro Education Center on Eastlake, designed for a much smaller staff, is very overcrowded, Benham said. The district recently placed several portables at the site to accommodate overflow.

The recent bond issue allowed for additional construction which will permit full day kindergarten next year, she said. Modifications are taking place currently to expand facilities at several schools.



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- Comprehensive Cancer Information provided by The Green House
- On-site Education on Women's Health Issues



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# Women's Health Center

All About Women

## Classified Ads

### LEGALS

**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:

**DISTRICT SOFTWARE CSP NO. 199-1005-0206 FRIDAY, OCT. 5, 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-10/4/01

**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:

**GLASS REPLACEMENT SERVICES CSP NO. 199-1005-0201 FRIDAY, OCT. 5, 2001, 2:00 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-10/4/01

**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:

**SCHOOL BUSES CSP NO. 199-1003-0202 WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3, 2001, 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-10/4/01

**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:

**INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL-LOCAL CSP NO. 199-1003-0203 WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3, 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-10/4/01

**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:

**INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL-NATIONAL CSP NO. 199-1003-0204 WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3, 2001, 3:00 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-10/4/01

**PUBLIC MEETING FY 2002/2003 Solid Waste Grants Program**

Tuesday, October 16, 2001, at 6:00 p.m. (MST) Rio Grande Council of Governments, 6th Floor Conference Room 1100 North Stanton Street, El Paso, Texas.

The Rio Grande Council of Governments (RGCOG) will hold a public meeting to discuss the

Solid Waste Management Grants program for fiscal years 2002 and 2003. An estimated total of \$243,000 will be available to local governments in each of the next two years for projects and activities that will help to implement the regional solid waste management plan. Eligible entities include cities, counties, public schools and school districts, other general or special law districts with responsibility for water quality protection or municipal solid waste management, and Councils of Government.

RGCOG staff will discuss the objectives of the regional plan, the recommended grant categories, and the process for considering private industry concerns. Public comment is invited regarding the funding plan, eligible activities, proposal review procedures, and private industry concerns.

Persons unable to attend the meeting are invited to submit written comments to the Rio Grande Council of Governments, Attention: Barbara Kauffman, 1100 North Stanton Street, Suite 610, El Paso, Texas 79902, or fax their comments to: (915) 532-9385. For further information, call (915) 533-0998, ext. 121.

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# The search for humor

By Don Flood

Now it's time for some serious business: the search for the World's Funniest Joke.

According to CNN.com, an organization called the Laugh Lab in England is conducting a study to see "whether universal humor really does exist."

That's a tough question, especially since taste in humor changes over time.

For instance, when I was 5 years old I wrote what was — up until that point — the Funniest Joke in History.

See if you don't agree.

Q: What kind of turtle has no legs?

A: A turtle with its legs cut off. Funny, huh?

I mean, fall down, roll on the floor, struggle to catch your breath hysterical, right?

I still crack myself up with it.

And when I was 5 years old, I killed 'em with that joke. It was the closer for my kindergarten stand-up act. Knocked 'em out every time.

But nowadays when I try to tell that joke at parties, nobody laughs. It's like Dead Silence.

People start edging away; they even make sudden excuses, "Oh I forgot, my house is on fire. I have to go home."

Yes, I'm afraid we're in danger of losing our sense of humor.

And some of the early entries on the Laugh Lab's Web site don't give me much cause for hope.

The following alleged jokes on the Laugh Lab Web site were sent in by actual people.

From the USA: "Two men walk into a bar. The third one ducks!" HA HA HA HA HA!

Proving that Portugal is no slouch when it comes to humor is this rip-snorter:

Q: What's the difference between ignorance and indifference?

A: I don't know and I don't care!

Norway, with its vast proven humor reserves, offered this gem:

Two cows standing in a field. One says to the other, "Moo." The other cow turns and says, "That's just what I was about to say!"

Chile is another country that people looking for big belly laughs may want to visit, as evidenced by this submission:

Q: Why did the doughnut shop close?

A: The owner got tired of the (w)hole business!

(Warning: The State Department has issued a warning that Chile, while a very nice country, may be too funny for most people. Also, the U.S. Embassy there can no longer assume responsibility for people who travel unprotected into areas known to be humorous.)

The United Kingdom, which likes to think of itself as a very funny country, had this contribution:

Q: What did the 0 say to the 8?

A: Nice belt!

Hmmmm...

And finally, another knee-slapper from the U.S.:

Q: Have you seen the new Pirate Movie?

A: It's rated AAARRRRR!

To which I might add: AAAAHHHHH!

It's obvious from this limited sampling that we are suffering from a severe, worldwide shortage of humor.

But you can help change that.

Send your funniest joke to me at [dflood@ezol.com](mailto:dflood@ezol.com), and I will print the best of them. Please include your name, hometown and state (and planet if not from Earth).

Together we can make the world safe for humor.

(c) 2001 King Features Synd., Inc.

## View from here By Bill Hammond

### Nation's tragedy may bring down entire industries if government assistance is not granted

Before the United States was viciously attacked and our lives were forever changed, we as a nation and as a state were already struggling with a slowing economy.

As our nation's symbols came tumbling down, so with them went the tenuous strings of economic stability on which this country was hanging.

There is not a single industry that has not been affected by this tragedy and businesses now are wondering if they will even survive.

It is critically important that Congress give businesses the boost they need to make it through these tough times through reductions in regulatory burdens and the capital gains tax.

One industry in particular needs our leaders attention — the airline industry.

It is the airlines that were completely shut down for three days, and air travel will unlikely ever be the same. A 50 percent reduction in revenue is already anticipated just over the next three months. Southwest Airline's flights in Texas just this week, which are traditionally filled to capacity, are sometimes shuttling only 20 passengers.

Since the grounding of all commercial traffic, the airlines have accumulated over \$1 billion in losses over the three-day period (\$15 million per hour).

Some smaller airlines are already calling it quits and laying off thousands of employees. Others are charting record losses that can probably never be recovered.

It is conceivable that no major carrier will be able to survive through the end of the year.

The airline industry is characterized by low margins and high-fixed costs. Prior to Sept. 11, the industry was already dealing with a 41 percent decline in revenue and was already taking measures to reduce the

number of flights and tightening the money belt.

As a result, the latest political unrest has created not just a crisis for airlines, but a risk of extinction.

Business and commerce cannot be successful without a strong transportation system. In Texas alone, the airline industry headquarters three major airlines — Southwest, American and Continental. These airlines employ over 79,000 Texans, provide travel for over 63 million passengers and carry over 1 million tons of cargo.

Other ramifications of the shut down and its future effects on the airline industry include:

- Initial layoffs exceeding 100,000 employees nationwide
- Over \$11 billion in cash and pre-tax losses for the remainder of the year
- Drastically reduced flight capacity
- Inability to recover lost revenue
- Added costs relating to additional security and insurance will further adversely affect financial strength

The airline crisis must be addressed immediately. Congress must give airlines the support they need through tax relief, loan guarantees and some type of protection from potential lawsuits stemming from the tragedy.

The airlines did not create this crisis. They did not hijack planes, they did not crash them into buildings and they did not close the nation's airports.

As Congress starts addressing the needs of this country, let them know that our airlines and other businesses affected by this tragedy need their help now more than ever before.

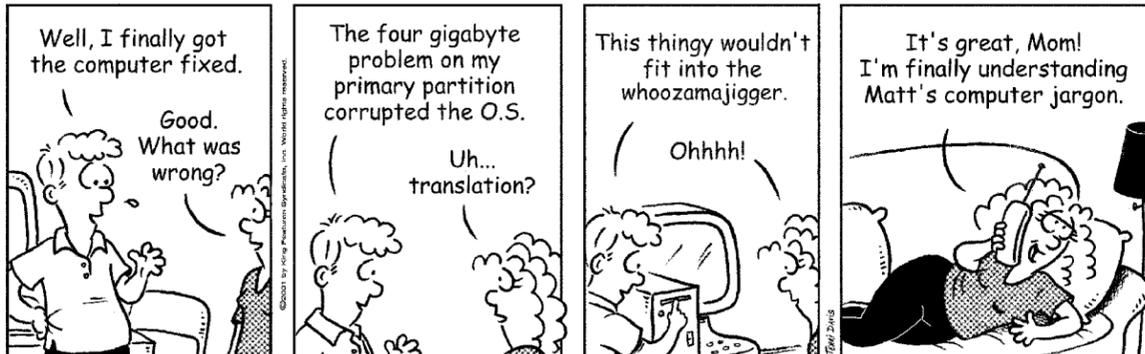
(Bill Hammond is president of the Austin-based Texas Association of Business and Chambers of Commerce.)

## 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



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**TB**

From Page 1

agreed to provide indemnity — or purchase funds — for depopulating animals involved in this TB case, including 79 head of cattle that had been moved out of the infected herd prior to disclosure of infection.

“Cattle tuberculosis was a human health threat in the early 1900s, when infection rates among herds was high and before pasteurization — or heat treatment — to kill bacteria in milk and cheese,” said Dr. Conger.

In the “restricted zone” of El Paso and Hudspeth Counties, ongoing low levels of TB infection in 10 dairies along the Rio Grande have been detected during the past 15 years. Despite periodic testing and the slaughter of infected animals, all herds in that region have not remained free of disease for more than a few years at a time, Dr. Conger said.

Currently, one dairy is under TB quarantine in this zone. Nearly \$43 million in federal funds have been appropriated to buy out the dairies, and the Texas Department of Health, by a new state law, will not

issue new dairy permits in this TB restricted zone. Because they originate in a high-risk area for TB, beef and dairy animals moved from the “restricted zone” into the rest of Texas, or the rest of the country must comply with strict testing and identification regulations.

Keeping a TB-free designation is particularly important for Texas, because it allows ranchers to move cattle across state lines without having them tested for tuberculosis which can be inconvenient and costly, Dr. Conger said, because it requires that animals be held for 72 hours for the procedure.

**Pets**

From Page 1

them. We know they're out there. We just need help finding them.

“Medical studies are finally proving what animal lovers have always known,” she said. “The human-animal companion bond can do as much if not more for a person's physical and emotional well-being than the best medicine.”

For more information about referring a potential client to Therapet Eldercare of El Paso, or to volunteer or make a contribution, call Sandy Connor at (915) 581-3789.

**Horizon City Community Chapel**

Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
 Sunday Service ..... 10:45 a.m.  
 Sunday Yth. Group ... 6:00 p.m.  
 Wed. Night Adult  
 Bible Study ..... 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Dean Pinney, Pastor

**Spanish Services**

Estudio Dominical ..... 9:45 a.m.  
 Servicios en Español .. 10:45 a.m.  
 Estudio en Español  
 Biblico Jueves ..... 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Pablo Gonzalez, Assoc. Pastor

Sunday Morning Nursery available

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**WEATHER**

AccuWeather.com

**SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO**

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
▲ 78°	▼ 58°	▲ 76° ▼ 56°	▲ 80° ▼ 58°	▲ 76° ▼ 54°	▲ 76° ▼ 54°	▲ 74° ▼ 52°	▲ 74° ▼ 48°

**UV INDEX** Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	6	Moderate
Friday	4	Low
Saturday	7	High
Sunday	4	Low
Monday	3	Low
Tuesday	5	Moderate
Wednesday	6	Moderate

**REAL FEEL TEMPTM**

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

Thursday	74°
Friday	72°
Saturday	78°
Sunday	72°
Monday	68°
Tuesday	74°
Wednesday	76°

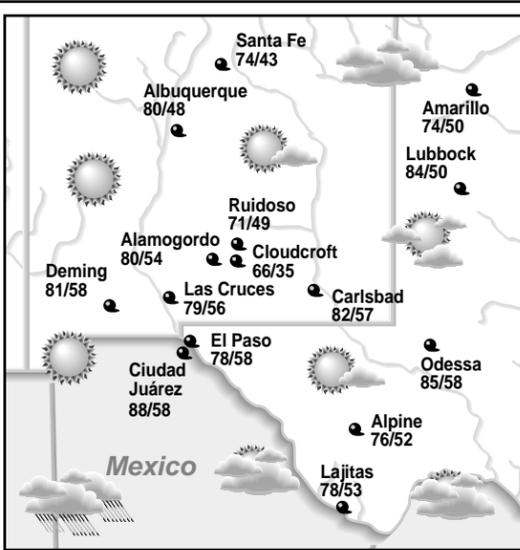
**AGRICULTURE**

A strong cold front will push through the region later Thursday, bringing cooler air. Clouds as well as showers will bring rain Friday and into the weekend. Sunshine will be limited and some of the rainfall has the potential to be locally heavy.

**TEXAS WEATHER**

Anthony	78	58
Canutillo	79	59
Clint	79	58
E. Montana	78	58
Fabens	79	58
Horizon	79	59
San Elizario	77	57
Socorro	77	57
Tornillo	78	57
Vinton	79	59

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



**TRAVELERS CITIES**

City	Thur. Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	80/48/s	76/46/s	74/48/pc	72/46/pc	68/44/pc
Atlanta	81/59/s	76/56/pc	74/58/pc	68/50/sh	67/43/s
Atlantic City	80/60/s	74/50/pc	66/48/s	62/44/s	62/42/s
Austin/San Antonio	84/66/pc	80/62/c	78/62/sh	76/58/c	76/56/pc
Baltimore	80/56/s	74/50/pc	66/44/s	62/40/s	64/38/s
Boston	80/52/pc	65/49/sh	62/48/s	59/44/sh	57/38/sh
Chicago	60/42/c	54/38/pc	56/36/s	64/44/s	60/48/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	88/64/pc	80/62/t	74/56/pc	72/54/c	72/52/s
Denver	60/36/pc	64/38/pc	70/38/s	62/34/pc	56/34/c
Flagstaff	72/36/s	71/38/s	63/37/s	55/32/r	54/37/pc
Houston	86/66/pc	80/64/pc	78/60/sh	76/52/c	78/58/c
Kansas City	66/44/sh	62/44/pc	62/42/s	62/42/pc	64/46/pc
Las Vegas	92/65/s	90/62/s	88/62/s	88/60/pc	79/57/s
Miami	86/75/c	87/75/r	87/76/pc	89/76/pc	85/67/pc
Minneapolis	50/34/pc	46/30/pc	48/32/pc	56/40/sh	58/42/sh
New Orleans	84/64/s	82/66/s	82/66/pc	80/62/s	74/50/s
New York City	80/62/s	72/52/pc	64/50/s	60/46/s	62/42/s
Philadelphia	80/60/s	74/52/pc	66/48/s	62/44/s	64/40/s
Phoenix	98/72/s	96/70/s	92/68/s	86/66/s	86/64/pc
Portland	78/50/s	73/48/pc	66/46/c	66/48/pc	68/50/pc
San Francisco	68/54/pc	66/52/pc	66/52/pc	66/54/pc	70/49/pc
Seattle	70/48/s	66/50/pc	62/48/c	62/48/pc	64/52/pc
Tucson	90/66/pc	92/64/pc	90/62/s	86/60/pc	84/58/pc
Washington, DC	82/60/s	74/52/pc	66/48/s	64/46/s	66/42/s

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

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

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