

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 29, No. 3

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

JANUARY 17, 2002

NEWSBRIEFS

SISD campus swap

A massive swap of administrators among campuses in the Socorro Independent School District was announced last week by Superintendent Don P. Schulte, which includes 10 elementary school principals and three area executive directors. "I believe the moves are in the best interest of the District," Schulte said. "We have an incredible staff of administrators whose talents should be shared with as many schools as possible." He said the moves are being made at this time to allow the principals to develop staffing and budget plans for the coming school year. Two years ago, SISD rotated its three high school principals. At that time only one of them was a TEA "Recognized" school. Today all three are. "It's a way to energize the district to reach for even higher goals," Schulte said. SISD has been a TEA "Recognized" district for three consecutive years. The three Area Executive Directors are reassigned: Joe Bob Shook to the Socorro High School feeder pattern; Charles Vass to the Montwood High feeder pattern; and Lorenzo Nieto to the Americas High pattern. At the campus level, Eleanor Coldwell of Vista Del Sol Elementary will exchange with Dr. Magdalena Aguilar of H.D. Hilley; Helen Tornatta will move to Campestre Elementary; Carmen Moran will move to O'Shea Keleher; Joyce Zarowski of Helen Ball will exchange with Paula Wulff of Robert R. Rojas School. Keith McClellan will move to the Hueco campus to replace Adalberto Garcia, who will begin staffing and budgeting for the Loma Verde and Lee/Edgemere Blvd. schools due to open next year. A principal opening left at Sierra Vista will be filled later. Clarice Jones of Clarke Middle will exchange posts with Bonnie Gonzalez of Sanchez Middle.

School board school

Want to be a school board member? Thinking about running? The Texas Association of School Boards is offering a birds-eye view of what is involved in being elected and serving as a local trustee. Experienced school board members will be facilitators at a workshop on Monday, March 4, 7-9 p.m. at the Region 19 Education Service Center, 6611 Boeing Drive in El Paso. Constructive campaigning, key responsibilities, qualities necessary for effective service, and division of authority with staff will be covered. Admission is free. For more information call Brenda Canul at 800-580-8272, extension 6104, or log on at www.tasb.org.

Presenters wanted

Lorenzo G. Loya Primary School will host its annual Career Awareness Day on Friday, Feb. 8 from 8 a.m. to noon. The school invites any San Elizario graduate or resident who would like to be a career awareness presenter to participate by giving a 20-25 minute discussion of their employment position, importance of education and personal experience with which children ages three to six can identify. Contact Charlie Guerra at 872-3940 for more information.

Never test the depth of the water with both feet.

— Quips and Quotes

The little water district that could... Lower Valley Water District poised to take its place as a community force

Courier Staff Reports

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — The Lower Valley Water District is less than 20 years old yet its existence in the Lower Valley has changed countless lives — community water service had previously been an impossible dream for a largely ignored population.

Now, as the entire rural county undergoes massive changes due to population growth, the LVWD stands ready to take the next step as a viable public entity, to provide a wide range of community services mandated by its charter.

Growing pains for this rural water district have not been comfortable — the district has been dogged by controversy and accusations of mismanagement — still the overall result of the legislature-created entity has been beneficial.

Under the guidance of Arturo "Tury" Duran since July of 2000, the LVWD shows no signs of fading into the sunset, in spite of recent rumblings that El Paso's Public Service Board (PSB) was poised to take over operations of the East-County water provider.

Duran, with 12 years experience under his belt as a federal Environmental Protection Agency monitor, took over the district at a crucial time, guiding the district back from the



Lower Valley Water District GM Arturo Duran in front of the 10,000 square foot building that was built to meet the growing needs of the district.

brink of legal and financial crisis, bringing light to the consolidation issue and re-negotiating a historic contract with the PSB, El Paso

See LWVD, Page 5

Nominations now being taken for new members of Clint ISD Site-Based Decision-Making Committee

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — The Clint Independent School District will have elections Feb. 7 and 8 at all of its school campuses to select new members for its Site-Based Decision Making Committee.

Elected committee members will be involved in the planning and decision-making process to establish and review the district's and campuses' educational plans, goals, performance objectives and major classroom instructional programs. Nomination applications, which are available at all Clint ISD campuses, will be accepted until 4 p.m., Jan. 31.

The district-level advisory committee will be composed of three parents, three business representatives and three community members so that the district's three geographic areas — Clint, Horizon and East Montana — are properly represented.

For purposes of establishing this committee, those submitting nominations can use the fol-

lowing SBDM policy descriptions for nominees: a person who stands in parental relation to a student is considered a parent; a parent who is an employee of the school district is not considered a parent representative on the committee; a parent is not considered a representative of community members on the committee; and community members must reside in the district and must be at least 18 years of age.

The district's next SBDM meeting for current members will be at 7:45 a.m. Jan. 18 at Carroll T. Welch Middle, located at 14510 McMahan Dr. New members will have their first SBDM meeting at 7:45 a.m. Feb. 15 at the middle school.

All residents of the district will be eligible to submit a private ballot and winners will be announced on Feb. 11.

For more information, call Clint ISD Public Information Officer Debra Dominguez at (915) 851-2877, Ext. 253.

Canutillo ISD and EPCC work to offer enhanced education opportunities

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

CANUTILLO—The Canutillo ISD and El Paso Community College are working together to provide enhanced educational opportunities to both school district students and the community.

In a special meeting Jan. 8, the CISD board of trustees moved toward formalizing an academic collaborative and told Superintendent Charles Hart to form a committee to work out details with the Community College. The committee now being formed will be comprised of district personnel and community members. It will report back with an overview/birdseye view for the February board meeting. A more comprehensive report will be presented to the board by the end of the school year.

The first steps in this initiative came when the CISD board was invited to a meeting last October with the Community College board of trustees to discuss the possibilities of enhanced educational opportunities.

"There are great possibilities ... great potential (from this effort)" Dr. Richard Rhodes, president of El Paso Community College said Tuesday. "Let our imaginations roam, and we can come up with great ideas."

Rhodes sees those academic possibilities as a two-way street, with benefits accruing to both the community college and the school district through the sharing of resources, technology, knowledge and faculty.

"We need to take advantage of those resources," CISD board president Joe Villarreal

See CANUTILLO, Page 4

Horizon City council approves process to amend City Charter

HORIZON CITY — Horizon City's Charter will be revisited with an eye toward making several amendments, following approval of a Charter Advisory Committee at the Jan. 8 regular meeting of the Town Council.

The Committee was instituted at the request of Mayor Pat Randleel, who said there were three primary areas she felt should be changed in the original Charter.

Horizon City's Charter was approved by the town's voters in August of 1997.

First on Randleel's list is the method of selection of town clerk and chief of police, both of which are currently retained by appointment of the mayor. Randleel said she feels both of these positions should be filled according to standard personnel policy and become functions of the town's employment process.

Secondly, she said the requirements regarding the municipal judge should be revisited to allow a position for an associate judge, to be utilized on an as-needed basis to fill in when the municipal judge is not available for whatever reason.

Finally, Randleel said it is her opinion that the town should have single-member districts for the selection of aldermen instead of the current requirement of filling positions on an at-large basis. Having aldermen on council who represent specific parts of the municipality would lead to better representation of all of Horizon City's residents, she said.

The Mayor told council that the Advisory Committee is to be composed of members of the original Charter Commission who drafted the original document prior to 1997.

Council unanimously approved revisiting the Charter and selection of the Advisory Committee.

In other business, the renaming of the Horizon City Municipal Park and the naming of a new town park was proposed by John Dixon, Director of Public Works. Dixon said a new park is expected to become available in three to four months, and that giving the parks specific names will be helpful for identification purposes. The new park is located in a new residential housing development near the intersection of Eastlake Loop and Landis Curlee Blvd. The matter was taken under advisement by council.

Council unanimously approved the support of Craig Patton for the Board of Directors to the El Paso Central Appraisal District.

Council also conducted a public hearing on an amendment to a zoning ordinance that will require separate permits for plumbing, electrical, and mechanical construction. There was no public input, therefore, Mayor Randleel closed the meeting and Council unanimously approved the second reading of the ordinance.

Police Chief Tony Aguilar presented a resolution for the purchase of audio and video equipment for the police department, which was approved by Council.

— Arleen Beard



Mayor Pat Randleel



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Careening into womanhood

A friend of mine has a 16-year-old daughter. She wants a car.

"I'm not sure it's the best thing to do," he says as he considers buying one for her. "When they have a car, you lose whatever control you had."

He may also be concerned about a recent local front-page headline that said accidents involving teenage girls has sky rocketed.

I hate to date myself here, but when my parents bought insurance on a vehicle for me to drive, it was a plus to be female. Traditionally, the boys were the risky ones to insure.

Not so anymore. The face behind the wheel of the small car that just cut you off on the freeway is as likely to be that of a young girl as not. She's no slacker either. She's probably dressed in the latest mall fashion jeans, has her hair glued down and her makeup on. She's got places to go and you are in her way.

Being in her way is becoming an all-too-familiar place for parents these days. Our young women "ain't what they used to be" and we have no one to blame but ourselves.

I know the feeling. I've got daughters. There's a world full of nasty little boys out there just waiting to take advantage of our innocent little daughters, so we'd better teach them to be tough, smart, capable and independent. Teach them to stand on their own two feet, provide for themselves and kick butt whenever necessary.

But somewhere along the line we dropped grace, patience, caring, nurturing and respect from the female role we espouse as a society. While the premise about the nasty

little boys is not necessarily faulty, our little girls are getting the idea that they are justified in acting in similar fashion.

Some of the behavior I've seen recently by middle school girls is nothing short of astounding — and I don't mean the way they dress, which is astounding enough all on its own. The gentler sex is no longer the follower in aggressive behavior — they are the leaders.

During a recent attempt to drive near a middle school when classes were let out, I encountered a group of young girls walking in the street with their backs to traffic. I slowed and made them aware of my presence so I could drive through. After a few insolent looks over their shoulder at me, they sauntered to the edge of the street, all except one who remained firmly in the middle of my lane as I neared — at the last minute she turned and banged the hood of my car with her hand then edged slowly out of the way as if to say she'd really taught me a lesson.

Somebody forgot to tell her that in a fair fight, the car always wins. We've failed to teach our daughters that a little healthy respect for forces larger, stronger and less feeling than themselves is a good thing.

But our daughters know they don't have to fight fair. They have a weapon in their arsenal that boys don't possess — they know how to use their gender very effectively to avoid consequences of their behavior. When brashness and aggression don't work, resort to tears and innocence — many a young girl didn't get the punishment she deserved because the principal couldn't believe someone that sweet and pretty could possibly be the culprit.

ITEM: DESPITE PROTESTS FROM THE AMA + MADD - NBC CONSIDERS HARD-LIQUOR ADS "MUST SEE TV"

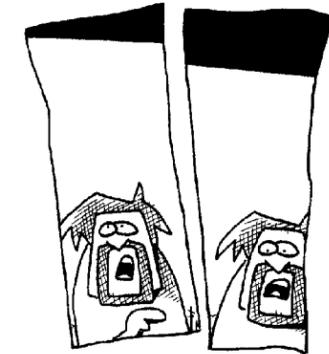
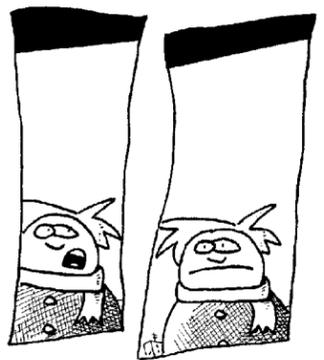


CONSUMER SPENDING WILL SAVE US ALL!

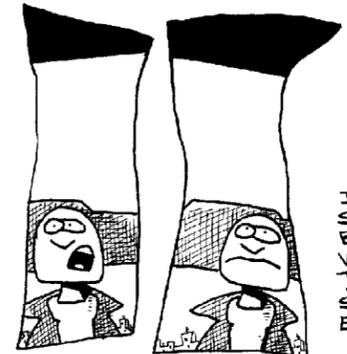
I'D LOVE TO SPEND A LOT OF MONEY, BUT I JUST GOT LAID OFF.



I'D LOVE TO SAVE THE ECONOMY, BUT I'M IN WAY TOO MUCH DEBT ALREADY.



GEE, I'D HELP OUT AMERICA, BUT I'VE BEEN UNEMPLOYED FOR MONTHS.



I JUST BOUGHT SOME PEANUT BUTTER LAST WEEK. DIDN'T THAT STIMULATE THE ECONOMY...?

BATEMAN

©MMI bateman.com - scott@bateman.com

This method of defense is also effective on daddies, moms and — as little as we want to consider this — store managers and police officers.

It has been my unfortunate experience that when it comes to teens, take

all the terrible things you can imagine them being involved in, multiply it by four, and you probably have a pretty good picture of reality. And yes, I mean *your* teenager.

So while my friend considers

whether to buy his daughter a car — her ultimate ticket to freedom — I'm reminded of the slogan that is applicable to drugs and witches bearing poison apples.

Just say no.

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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

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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.

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Est. 1973
News, Inc.

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



Give the gift of life

This time of year is a busy one for all of us. The holiday season has come to a close. We've made our new year's resolutions and we're getting back into the swing of things. As you dash into 2002, I

urge you to consider an extra new year's resolution: donate blood. The need is great, and the few minutes it takes may mean years of life for a sick or injured patient.

The good news is that millions of Americans voluntarily donate blood every year. The bad news is that this is not enough. Did you know that 60 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to give blood, but only five percent donates each year?

The demand for blood is constantly increasing, and the nation's blood banks are having difficulty keeping up. According to the American Red Cross, the amount of blood needed by hospitals increased more than 15 percent in the past year. Maintaining an adequate amount of blood for surgeries, trauma victims and treatment of diseases is becoming a year-round problem.

What's worse is that donations traditionally slump during the Christmas holiday season. Colleges, schools and businesses that normally host blood drives close and families take vacations. An outbreak of the flu and bad

weather can also affect donations. That means that the demand for blood is higher this time of year than in other months.

In order to avoid a critical shortage, more donors are needed. Donating blood is safe, painless and can save the lives of others. Any individual who is at least 17 years old and weighs 110 pounds or more can donate. Donating blood takes about 45 minutes to 1 hour, including 20 minutes for the actual blood collection. Type "O" blood is the most commonly used because it can be safely transfused to people of all blood types. You can give blood every eight weeks, but remember that with just one donation you could save a life.

There are many places where donations can be made. Bloodmobiles travel to high schools, colleges, churches, and other community organizations. People can also donate at community blood centers and hospital-based donor centers. Many people donate at blood drives at their workplace. To find out where you can donate, call the national Red Cross hotline at 800-GIVE-LIFE, America's Blood Centers at 888-256-6388, or the American Association of Blood Banks at 866-376-6968.

Every few seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. In the year 2002, make a resolution to give the gift of life: donate blood.





January Specials

- Nails (new set) \$20
- Pedicure \$15
- Waxing (per area) \$ 8

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A Full Service Salon
Walk-In or by Appointment
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Get your cookies today from a girl in your neighborhood or call the Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande **Cookie Hotline** at 566-1558!



View from the porch By Linda Mussehl

Long may it wave

Isn't the recent upsurge in patriotism wonderful? The rest of the country has just relearned what we've known all along.

Until I read the op-ed essays in the *New York Times* in the weeks following Sept. 11, I hadn't realized that honoring our flag had become over the years a matter of geography and social class. Since Vietnam, working-class people and those living in the country's heartland were the primary custodians of our national symbols and patriotic rites.

George Packer, author of *Blood of the Liberals*, wrote (*NYT*, 9/30/01) that among his family and peers the "instinct for battlefield virtue went underground" in the second half of the 20th century. During that time, Packer continues, "The flag was waved mainly by working-class people, for whom loyalty to the family, the tribe and the nation hadn't been eroded by the pressure of middle-class ambition and self-conscious sophistication. My family would sooner have upholstered the furniture in orange corduroy than show the colors on Memorial Day."

Packer's honest essay suggests to me that perhaps there is a deeper correlation between military service and patriotism than we realized.

World War II (or maybe the Korean War) was the last time that rich white boys were expected, as a group, to fight and perhaps die for their country. The nation's abrupt, enthusiastic return to patriotism and literal flag-waving was in full swell by 11:00 a.m. EST on Sept. 11. Was the new communal clutching at our symbols of pride and defiance fueled by the sudden realization —

and horror — that even Ivy League graduates, trading stocks and bonds in New York's financial district, could be killed by their nation's enemies?

Sweeping generalizations are full of logical flaws, of course, but it is something to consider. And the outcome, renewed honor of our symbols, is good, no matter what the source.

Riding along on the wave with our new-found patriotism, however, is one nasty little trend that I hope goes away soon.

Within days of our national tragedy, advertising campaigns cloaked their products in the flag, trying to transform and transfer our love of country into a love for their product: Show your patriotism by buying a Ford. Wave the flag with our new 9.9% A.P.R. credit card. Three cheers for the red, white and beer.

A recently updated poster of Rosie the Riveter featured on a morning news show portrays Rosie clutching a handful of credit cards, ready to do her patriotic duty at the shopping mall.

Perhaps, in the terrorists' quest to strike at the symbolic heart of decadent Americanism, they got the address wrong. Maybe their real target was Madison Avenue.

I had been vaguely uneasy with the new mercantile messages because overuse and misuse of any symbol diminishes its impact. But my break point, the feeling that the manipulation of our renewed patriotism had gone too far, was when I got our jeans back from the laundry. The dry cleaners' flimsy plastic bag was printed with a waving American flag in full color — along with the bag's mandatory safety warning: "Caution. Keep away from small children."

TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger Moore January 20, 1891, Gov. James S. Hogg inaugurated. He was the first native Texan governor.



Writing skills garner recognition for elementary authors

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Damian Elementary School Principal Max Padilla announced recently the winners of the school's Fourth Annual Story Writing Contest for third and fourth grade students.

More than 150 third and fourth graders took up the challenge to see who could write the best story about a pair of magic glasses. The winning narratives were selected by teachers in other grade levels.

Third grade winners were Jared Segovia, Andrea Lujan, Megan Higgason. Top writers in fourth grade were Jesus Segoviano, Nano Gallegos, Omar Garcia, and Sam Jensen. Winners shared their two-page stories with their schoolmates



WINNING WRITERS — Top row, from left, is Jesus Segoviano, Nano Gallegos, Omar Garcia, Sam Jensen; bottom row from left, Jared Segovia, Megan Higgason, and Andrea Lujan.

by reading their entries aloud during a special assembly for all third and fourth grade students.

"The contest helps students practice

their writing skills and gives the winners an opportunity to experience reading in front of an audience," said Melissa Keithley, fourth grade teacher.

Canutillo ISD

From Page 1

said in the Jan. 8 meeting. Emphasizing the importance of such a joint effort, he adds, "the unfamiliarity (with college life) would be diminished (and) problems erased. We need to guide more students to post high school studies. We have to excite and motivate them to make them more educated."

In carrying out its mission, Rhodes echoes Villarreal's concerns and says he wants to make sure there is a "good transition into college." He adds, "We are trying to set up the best network to keep them on career paths."

Part of that network, he explains, is providing the high school students with "little incentives." This would include students being able to earn simultaneous credits for future col-

lege classes by taking courses for which they would also earn credit on the high school level.

Vicki Davis, CISD's assistant superintendent for student performance, is working toward setting up the dual credit program with the community college. Classes would be taught in the high school with specially certified teachers who will follow EPCC criteria.

Already in place are medical technology/nursing assistant courses in the high school which dovetail and parallel community college classes.

Comprising the school district committee appointed by Hart are Davis, assistant superintendent Dr. John Kessinger, Renee O'Donnell, high school principal; Dr. Tom Rood, high school counselor; and Martha Veale, district's director of technology and career education. Community members will be asked to serve on the committee.

San Elizario Independent School District Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances All Governmental Fund Types and Expendable Trust Fund Year Ended August 31, 2001

Data Control Codes	Governmental Fund Types			TOTALS (Memorandum Only)	
	100-199 General Fund	200-499 Special Revenue Funds	500-599 Debt Service Fund	98 August 31, 2001	97 August 31, 2000
REVENUES:					
Local and Intermediate Sources:					
	\$ 459,549	\$ 125,371	\$ 6,673	\$ 591,593	\$ 744,459
Investment Income					
Other Local and Intermediate Sources	1,493,897	105,855	107,049	1,706,801	1,848,754
5700 Local and Intermediate Sources	1,953,446	231,226	113,722	2,298,394	2,593,213
5800 State Program Revenues	20,837,511	564,150	949,869	22,351,530	21,420,084
5900 Federal Program Revenues	1,879,691	1,474,383	—	3,354,074	3,192,986
5020 Total Revenues	24,670,648	2,269,759	1,063,591	28,003,998	27,206,283
EXPENDITURES:					
Current:					
0010 Instruction and Instructional-Related Services	12,476,694	1,419,105	—	13,895,799	13,153,060
0020 Instructional and School Leadership	2,121,384	238,993	—	2,360,377	2,121,337
0030 Support Services - Student (Pupil)	4,232,843	287,318	—	4,520,161	3,745,046
0040 Administrative Support Services	1,154,565	—	—	1,154,565	1,115,288
0050 Support Services - Nonstudent Based	3,658,103	3,093	—	3,661,196	3,275,342
0060 Ancillary Services	25,900	189,553	—	215,453	158,054
0070 Debt Service	503,472	4,298	1,028,419	1,536,189	1,956,112
0080 Capital Outlay	2,228,180	3,266,481	—	5,494,661	6,369,572
0090 Intergovernmental Charges	13,000	—	—	13,000	9,200
6030 Total Expenditures	26,414,141	5,408,841	1,028,419	32,851,401	31,903,011
1100 Excess (Deficiency) Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(1,743,493)	(3,139,082)	35,172	(4,847,403)	(4,696,728)
7020 Other Resources	—	—	—	—	9,702,642
8030 Other (Uses)	—	—	—	—	(11,198)
1200 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Resources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	(1,743,493)	(3,139,082)	35,172	(4,847,403)	4,994,716
0100 Fund Balance — September 1 (Beginning)	7,211,378	3,579,010	53,611	10,843,999	5,848,584
0300 Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance	—	—	—	—	699
3000 Fund Balance — August 31 (Ending)	\$ 5,467,885	\$ 439,928	\$ 88,783	\$ 5,996,596	\$ 10,843,999

Classified Ads

LEGALS

Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, Inc. is soliciting bids for manual application of pink bollworm pheromone ropes. Ropes will be tied to cotton plants at an approximate rate of 200 ropes per acre at certain stages of growth. A minimum of 40 persons over a four-week period will be needed for this field activity. Applications of ropes in the El Paso and Trans Pecos areas will begin in late May or early June. Bids will be accepted through January

30, 2002. For more information and detailed instructions, please contact the local Foundation office at (877) 765-2139, or the Foundation Headquarters at (800) 687-1212 Ext. 3124.
WTCC: 01/10, 01/17 & 01/24/02

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

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Life-changing products and work-at-home business opportunity. Call 1-800-304-2550.

HELP WANTED

Hair Slingers in Horizon City is seeking experienced cosmetologist. Apply in person after 2 p.m. at 13899 Horizon Blvd., Ste. 4, Horizon City.

OFFICE SPACE

Office for lease in Horizon City. Corner of Darrington and Horizon Blvd. \$350/month. Call Horizon Properties, 852-3331.

PETS

FREE TO GOOD HOME — Two Dachshund females, almost one year

old, full blood but not papered. Need love and attention, and must remain together. Information: 852-4235. If no answer leave message.

SELF-HELP OPPORTUNITIES

Alcoholics Anonymous Group Paso Del Norte meets at 8501 Kingsway in Westway, Monday-Saturday, 8 p.m. Call 886-4948 for information.

Alcohólicos Anónimos Grupo Paso Del Norte sesiones lunes a sabado, a 8-9 de la tarde, 8501

Kingsway, Westway. 886-4948 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 15360 Horizon Blvd. in Horizon City on Mondays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. Call 859-0484 for information.

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solucion. Visitemos. Alcohólicos Anónimos, Grupo 8 de Enero, 15360 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, sesiones lunes a

sábado a 8 de la tarde. Informacion: 859-0484.

SERVICES

"Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring" JIFFY GLASS REPAIR
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Licensed & Insured Commercial/Residential Heating & Cooling Refrigerated Air Heat Pumps Duct Work Appliances
VISA & MasterCard TX Lic.#TACLA021147E
Free Estimates on New Installations

LVWD

From Page 1

County's water Goliath.

With close to 11,000 water customers, 5000 sewer customers and \$8 million in yearly revenue the district was floundering in financial mismanagement, low public opinion, and difficulty maintaining a stable board of directors.

In the tireless Duran, the LVWD found a workhorse with vision who set about revamping both the management and the image of the district from the grassroots up, holding 150 public meetings in the first six months alone, often in people's homes, to build a coalition of community support.

"When I was hired the district was going through a very critical phase, legally, publicly, politically," he said during a recent interview.

"All the (county) elected officials were sold on the idea of consolidation with the City of El Paso. So I contacted the PSB, and I said, hey, you want to negotiate for consolidation let's do it. Here's our principles for negotiating.

"But they didn't want to have a negotiation. They didn't feel that they had to negotiate. They just wanted to take over and that's it. They claimed they could lower rates but they never guaranteed that.

"(Consolidation) would have been a very successful thing to do. But there was no way that we could have done it under the conditions that they were telling us," Duran said.

The LVWD, while not opposed to consolidation, had critical issues that had to first be addressed. Among them were provision of an elected representative from the Lower Valley to represent the interests of the East County on the PSB board. Another was a guarantee that lower rates would become reality once consolidation was finalized.

Duran said assets and debts were another issue that went unresolved — the PSB wanted to take over some \$100 million of LVWD assets without assuming the \$14 million in debt service the LVWD carries.

In essence, the LVWD customers would have to pay off those debts without credit for the assets of the district.

In spite of these differences, Duran said if the PSB came back in good faith these issues could still be worked out. However, there were other factors that never made it to the negotiation stage.

"We are not a mirror entity with (the PSB)," Duran said. "We serve different functions. PSB is a department of the City (of El Paso). It has a very narrow scope. PSB deals with water and wastewater (only). We (LVWD, through legislative mandate) have responsibility for five areas: water, sewer, solid waste, flood control and parks and recreation.

"So if we consolidated with them there would have to be another plan to cover these other areas of responsibility.

"The PSB could not take over our district by themselves. Legally it gets a little more complex than that," Duran said, noting that the responsibilities of flood control and parks and recreation would have to be absorbed by other City of El Paso departments, creating further complications.

Meanwhile, the LVWD was successful in re-negotiating the historic 1989 contract with PSB on the basis that some of the requirements were "questionable" and open to interpretation.

Duran said the re-negotiation resulted in "a legal fight for awhile."

Terms of the re-negotiation include that the LVWD will realize a savings of about \$3 million a year in lower water costs. The PSB dropped the rate it charges LVWD from one dollar to 80 cents per 1,000 gallons of water for next three years.

Also, the LVWD will not have surrender any additional water rights to

the PSB for the next 15 years.

Duran said the LVWD customers will receive an immediate drop in rates beginning in March due to the negotiated savings. He said he expected water rates to drop from the current average of \$55-\$65 to about \$43-\$44 average per month.

Another side effect of the re-negotiation resulted in the LVWD finally taking over service to the Town of Clint from the PSB beginning Dec. 19, 2001 — a long awaited project that Duran said should have taken place years ago but was delayed due to assertions that LVWD was not meeting efficiency and financial obligations.

In order to take over the Clint service, Duran said the LVWD was required to meet stringent demands including a rate-reduction plan, lowering overhead and improving efficiency.

Duran took the challenge, working some 93 hours a week for over 10 months. As a result, Duran said the district went from running about \$100,000 in the red every month to saving about \$1.5 million over a six-month period.

"We met every demand," he said.

LVWD taxpayers, however, will see a tax increase due to requirements by the Texas Water Development Board that the district begin meeting its debt service requirements. Duran said the district had been subsidizing payment of the bonds, but was not charging customers any debt service.

TWDB required the district to implement the debt-service tax that was agreed to cover low-interest loans from state and federal sources. A tax rate of 28 cents per \$100 property valuation was implemented. Duran said the drop the rates in March is intended to help offset the increase in taxes.

Not wanting to rest on past achievements, Duran and the LVWD board are moving ahead with future plans to address all of their legislative mandates. He said a bill introduced by Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchinson was successfully ushered through Senate last session to provide \$100,000 to begin flood control in the Sparks subdivision — a major project waiting on the drawing board.

As for the future of water in El Paso County, Duran said the needs of the rural county are different from that of City of El Paso neighborhoods which are already developed with basic services.

He said he envisions eventually that the City of El Paso will co-exist with one large water authority that integrates LVWD and all rural county water districts, with an elected board with representation from each area "so that all interests would be addressed," he said

He said the possibilities for partnering between the area water providers are unlimited, including an eventual large sewage treatment center further down in the Lower Valley that could serve the East County communities down as far Tornillo.

But Duran's interests extend beyond the nuts and bolts of LVWD operations to the customers it serves — and their special interests.

"We have to look at things as a whole picture," he said, noting that there are enormous human needs on the part of area residents that are not being met, including jobs, health care and preventive services.

"I see that in the next five years, if we don't get ready today..." he paused. "We're playing catch up."

"We need to be very proactive in being part of the community. The district can serve as a good entity here. We are developing two programs, one of them is an economic development program including jobs, training for jobs, capacity, that kind of stuff."

And why is a water district interested in community development?

"(We) have a high rate already. These are low income families, some don't have jobs. They have a hard time paying the rates we charge them. Why don't we help them?" he asked.

"For the first time I am integrating our planning with the county, with economic development, the Fabens bridge. We are integrated with all these things because of basic services — (in the) industrial corridor idea, 1-10 corridor."

Still, he finds frustration with funding entities that put on hold projects that have been implemented into the LVWD masterplan for over a year, including laying water transmission lines to the Colonias near the Clint Landfill, and to extend additional service lines to Clint, San Elizario and Fabens.

"It's not us, its not me that is going to use the money. You, Texas Water Development Board, it is your responsibility to the state to provide the resources to build this infrastructure and to provide these services. I am only a friend to help you meet your goal..."

**Town of Clint
PUBLIC NOTICE**

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 2002 during the Regular Town Council Meeting at the Clint Community Center, 200 N. San Elizario Rd., Clint, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for a:

TEXAS COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT GRANT 2002

The public is invited to attend the hearing to make any comments regarding this request. Those that are unable to attend may submit their views to the Town of Clint. Persons in need of assistance to attend are encouraged to contact the Town Clerk at 851-3146.

Jessica Garza
Town Clerk

WTCC: 01/17/02

**Town of Clint
PUBLIC NOTICE**

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 2002 before the Regular Town Council Meeting at the Clint Town Hall, 200 N. San Elizario Rd., Clint, 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 granting an exemption for certain local Charitable Organizations by the Town of Clint, Texas;
- 2) An Ordinance requiring the continued taxation of Motor Vehicles leased for personal use by the Town of Clint, Texas;
- 3) An Ordinance subjecting the owners of travel trailers to Ad Valorem Taxation by the Town of Clint, Texas.

The public is invited to attend the hearing to make any comments regarding this request. Those that are unable to attend may submit their views to the Town of Clint. Persons in need of assistance to attend are encouraged to contact the Town Clerk at 851-3146.

Jessica Garza
Town Clerk

WTCC: 01/17/02



**Men's
Basketball**

- vs. Nevada
Thursday, Jan. 17
at 7:05 PM
- vs. Fresno State
Saturday, Jan. 19
at 7:05 PM

Sponsored by:



For Ticket Information
Call 747-5234



'Meet me at DQ' for 'Something Different'

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Ever had the opportunity to be served by a multi-millionaire? You may get your chance later on this month — and Dairy Queen's slogans say it all.

Controversial Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban, who set a record last season for the most amount in fines paid to the NBA is at it again.

He was hit with his biggest fine ever last week. Cuban, who made some honest but unflattering remarks about NBA head of officiating Ed Rush, was issued a \$500,000 fine because of it.

The half-million dollar fine is the most ever handed out by the NBA.

Cuban said he wouldn't even hire Rush to manage a Dairy Queen.

Heck, have you ever seen NBA officials work? I wouldn't hire any of them, either.

I've said it before and I'll say it again — the easiest job in the world is being an NBA referee because you don't have to call anything. No double dribble, no three second call, no palming the ball and most of all...no traveling call.

And if they ever do call anything all they do is look at the players' uniform name and num-

ber and if he's a superstar you let it go, if he's a so-so player you blow that whistle.

Anyway, back to Cuban, officials from Dairy Queen took slight offense at the owner's remarks and in an effort to show how difficult it actually is to run a Dairy Queen, invited Cuban to run a DQ for a day.

And Cuban has accepted.

Cuban also added that he never intended to put down Dairy Queen. On the contrary, Cuban said he just wouldn't want a man like Rush to work there and bring down the high quality of product that DQ is known for.

Ouch!

There's no doubt that Mark Cuban is a spoiled little rich kid but he does have a point when he questions the quality of NBA officiating. People have been questioning the lack of traveling calls and how the superstars always get the call at crunch time, for years.

Cuban just happens to have the money to pay the fines — and the guts to say it out loud.

Shaq attack

Everybody knows the only way to stop Shaquille O'Neal around the basketball is to wrap him up hard. You know, the old hack-a-shaq. If you don't grab him hard he'll just go up to the basket and lay the ball in and probably the defender along with it.

Seems Shaq is a little tired of the routine and snapped last week. In a game against the Chicago Bulls, Shaq was fouled hard and went after the Bulls' Brad Miller.

Shaq made two mistakes. First he threw two punches at Miller and second, he threw the first from behind — not a very manly thing to do for the powerful O'Neal.

It's kind of difficult to feel sorry for the often-fouled Shaqster. I feel more sorry for the poor guy that Shaq bowls over on the way to the basket every game.

Another thing, the Lakers went on to lose to the horrid Bulls after O'Neal was ejected from the game.

Shaq is going to have to control his emotions if he is going to lead the Lakers to yet another championship — or at least improve his free throw shooting so teams stop putting him on the line.

Hit the road, jocks

There must be something in the air right now and it's not exactly cupid and his arrow, that's for sure.

Over the last couple of weeks two of the greatest athletes ever to play their respective sports announced they were going through divorces. Not a good a way to start 2002.

Michael Jordan, probably the best basket-

ball player ever and Kirby Puckett, one of the best baseball players ever both are being divorced by their wives of 13 and 15 years respectively.

Jordan's wife Juanita said that she and Michael had grown apart and his recent return to the NBA, which means more time away from home, was the last straw.

Kirby Puckett's divorce is a little more complicated. Seems Tonya Puckett tells a very different story of the Kirby Puckett most of the nation saw during his career with the Minnesota Twins.

Tonya Puckett said that Kirby had recently threatened her life and has a history of domestic physical abuse. She said that her husband once choked her with a cord and once put a gun to her face.

This can't be the same Kirby Puckett, can it? The same Kirby Puckett that led the Twins to World Series titles in 1987 and 1991. And this can't be the same Kirby Puckett that won the Roberto Clemente award as baseball's Man of the Year for his community service in 1996.

Michael and Kirby, two so-called family men who will soon lose them.

I don't know if these guys are terrible husbands or if their wives are selfish liars but I do know one thing — money isn't everything.

Spain and Mexico allow foreign settlers onto Texas soil for first time

History of Texas Public Lands - Part Two

TEXAS — In this, the second part of a historical series on the lands of Texas, the Texas General Land Office reveals a fascinating look at Texas' first residential land planner, Stephen F. Austin, and the far-reaching effects of the *empresario* land grant system.

Like father, like son

Moses Austin's project was approved on Jan. 17, 1821. Less than six months later, on June 10, Moses was dead of pneumonia. The project was left to Stephen, who made plans to carry it forward.

Austin went to meet with Governor Antonio Martinez, who formally recognized him as heir to his father's enterprise and gave him specific instructions about establishing the colony. Since Mexico had declared its independence from Spain earlier in 1821, Martinez was both the last governor of Spanish Texas and the first governor of Mexican Texas.

This notion of a colonizer or *empresario* — though traditionally not of foreign origin — already existed in Spanish settlement laws dating from 1573, which called for a colonizer to conquer, pacify and settle a region in return for governing powers over the colony. It also allowed him four square leagues of land for every 30 families he settled.

Each family who settled in the colony would receive a town lot for a house, farmland, pasture land and certain tax exemptions. Colonists were required to settle on the land and use it before being allowed to sell it. Under the terms of Moses Austin's proposal, colonists were to become loyal subjects of the Spanish king and promised to obey Spanish laws and adhere to the Roman Catholic faith.

Many Americans were eager to settle in Texas under these conditions. In turn, Martinez reversed Spain's ages-long policy of excluding foreigners in hopes that Americans "of good character" who

received generous portions of land would be loyal and prevent a takeover of Texas by their countrymen.

Spain had claimed Texas since 1519 and had controlled it since permanent occupation in 1716. But the king had never made its extensive settlement a primary concern. Instead, Spain concentrated on maintaining hold over the area. Preventing foreign encroachment upon Texas by France and the United States was important because Texas served as a protective borderland of New Spain (Mexico). Partly for this reason and partly because of the destruction caused by the Mexican War of Independence, there were only three Spanish settlements in Texas when Mexico declared its independence in 1821. These were located at La Bahía (Goliad), San Antonio and Nacogdoches. Only 5,000 Spanish subjects lived in Texas and of these, 1,000 were soldiers.

In retrospect, Mexico's continuation of colonization policy that allowed foreigners contributed to a

national disaster — the loss of Texas and the rest of its northern territory.

Whereas for most Texans Stephen F. Austin is still a hero — the most successful of the Anglo-American colonizers of Mexican Texas, the "father of Texas" — he represents to most Mexicans the expansionistic intentions of an ambitious neighbor who repaid the generous overtures of a struggling young republic by usurping nearly half of its national territory.

The Spanish imprint

Although the Spanish did not settle Texas in great numbers, the years of Spanish sovereignty left permanent effects upon its history. Spain land titles are still recognized as legal. Many Spanish laws were retained, first by the Mexican government and later by the Republic and State of Texas. When the Congress of the Republic adopted English common law in 1840, it made certain exceptions to the replacement of Spanish civil law, so that Texas land laws are a combination of the two. For ex-

ample, Spanish community property laws and laws preventing the forced sale of property are in effect today. But perhaps the most important Spanish land laws that have carried over deal with submerged land. Under Spanish law, the government retained ownership of the riverbeds of perennial streams. Spanish law also provided for government ownership of submerged coastal or tideland, to three marine leagues (10.4 miles) from shore. The U.S. Congress recognized this boundary in 1953, although other coastal states are limited to the three miles provided for by English common law. This gives Texas the ownership of lands rich in oil and other resources. The Spanish influence on the Texas land system has been far-reaching.

(Part III will continue next week. The information contained in this historical series can be accessed at www.glo.state.tx.us, and is reprinted with permission of the Texas General Land Office.)

King Super Crossword

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| FLIGHT MANUALS | 64 Soap ingredient | 125 _Neisse Line | 36 _yesterday | 90 "The truth at last!" |
| ACROSS | 65 Actor's lunch? | 126 Tenor Beniamino | (naive) | 93 Hibachi residue |
| 1 Polish cake | 68 Mark Bowden | 127 Internet acronym | 37 Got by, with "out" | 94 Rob Roy's refusal |
| 6 Melodious | book | 128 Put on a pedestal | 38 "Baloney!" | 95 Adult |
| McEntire | 73 "Ask _ Girl" ('59 | 129 Actor Calhoun | 39 Like some donuts | 96 Coming from Cork |
| 10 Tower material? | film) | 130 Burger topping | 40 Brute | 97 "Saving Private |
| 15 Yak | 74 Main drag | | 41 Stowe sight | Ryan" extras |
| 18 Caustic | 76 Mare's morsel | DOWN | 43 Sock part | 98 Solidarity leader |
| 19 Mideastern airline | 77 Textbook headings | 1 British city | 44 Basic organism | 99 Lunar spacecraft |
| 20 '28 Irving Berlin | 79 Senator Fong | 2 Pain | 45 Battlefield doc | 100 Tire type |
| song | 80 Kathy of country | 3 Make coffee | 46 See 4 Down | 105 Swarm (with) |
| 21 Antitoxins | 83 Soldered or | 4 With 46 Down, | 47 Farmer's place | 106 Surgical tool |
| 22 Dashiell Hammett | stapled | "Vertigo" star | 52 Festive | 107 Postpone |
| book | 87 Maintain | 5 Oklahoma city | 53 Connecticut town | 108 Threshold |
| 25 Evangelist | 88 Splinter group | 6 So out it's in | 54 Moist | 110 Food fish |
| Roberts | 89 Grandma | 7 Vote in | 56 Photo book | 111 Cuban currency |
| 26 Wield an axe | 91 Emulated the | 8 Hit hard | 57 Annoy | 113 Violinist Oistrakh |
| 27 Hood or Tell | Valkyries | 9 Opposite of | 59 Bring bliss | 114 Extinct bird |
| 28 Have a hot dog | 92 Agatha Christie | aweather | 60 At once | 115 Christmas visitors |
| 29 Woods dweller? | book | 10 "Baby _ Want You" | 61 Present company? | 116 Chip off Woody's |
| 30 Explorer | 98 Conflict | (71 hit) | 64 Ridicule | block |
| Sebastian | 101 Rational | 11 Jeeves' profession | 65 "Very funny!" | 117 Rind |
| 32 Choose, with "for" | 102 Geometry | 12 Namu or Willy | 66 Tel _ | 119 Actress Leoni |
| 34 Actor Howard | calculation | 13 Crowdburst? | 67 Insignificant | 120 Seville shout |
| 36 "Mr. Television" | 103 "Rawhide" prop | 14 Itch | 69 Yaphet of | 121 Self-esteem |
| 38 Loaded | 104 Indifference | 15 McRaney or Ford | "Homicide" | 122 China's _ Biao |
| 40 Siouan people | 106 August one? | 16 Lawrence's locale | 70 Toque or topee | |
| 42 Hill or Haggerty | 107 Religious belief | 17 Scrimshaw | 71 Guitarist Eddy | |
| 43 Harper Lee book | 109 Big vein | material | 72 Available | |
| 48 Utah city | 110 1 Down, e.g. | 21 Weeps | 75 DEA officer | |
| 49 Dole (out) | 112 Adds a lane | 23 Warhol subject | 78 Knee-slapper | |
| 50 Algerian seaport | 115 Bell and Barker | 24 Dress | 80 Nasty | |
| 51 "My word!" | 118 Composer | 30 European | 81 Zenith | |
| 55 Won over | Siegmeister | peninsula | 82 Pay to play | |
| 58 Singer John | 119 Willa Cather book | 31 Half and half? | 84 Night noise | |
| 61 Work like a horse | 123 Word with dance | 33 Sweater letter | 85 Actress Purviance | |
| 62 Slip cover? | or dunk | 34 Meat cut | 86 _ Plaines, IL | |
| 63 Mauna _ | 124 Art supporter? | 35 Always, to Arnold | 88 Corset part | |

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Social Security: Q & A by Ray Vigil

Q. Can I get more Social Security credits by working more than one job?

A. The maximum number of Social Security credits that a person can get in a year is four. In 2001, you receive one credit for every \$830 of covered earnings up to the four-credit maximum. An additional job would probably not increase your credits but may give you a higher benefit amount when you retire or if you should become disabled or to your survivors when you die.

Q. Are my retirement benefits figured on my last five years of earnings?

A. No. Retirement benefits are calculated on earnings during a lifetime of work under the Social Security system. For most current and future retirees, we will average your 35 highest years of earnings. If you have less than 35 years of earnings, we do average in years of zero earnings to bring the number of years to 35.

Q. I have a part-time job and a full-time job. Do both employers have to

withhold Social Security taxes from my wages?

A. Yes, each employer is responsible for withholding on wages subject to social security up to the annual wage limit. If taxes withheld exceed the wage limit for that year, (2001 \$80,400.00 in 2001) you are entitled to a credit for excess social security withheld. You can request that excess withholding be refunded when you file your federal income tax return with IRS.

Q. I'm a waitress, and I have to admit that I normally don't report all of my tips. A co-worker suggested that

I start reporting them. Do I have to?

A. Anyone who earns tips should report them as part of their income, because the more you pay in Social Security contributions, the more you'll receive in benefits. When you pay Social Security taxes on your tips, you earn protection for you and your family against loss of income if you retire or become disabled. You'll also earn protection for your family if you die.

Q. What should I do if I do not receive my Social Security check?

A. If you are receiving checks by mail, wait three days after the date

you normally receive your check. If you still haven't received it, contact us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213. You should also consider receiving future checks by direct deposit. If you normally receive your check by direct deposit to your bank, report a non-receipt of payment immediately by calling our toll-free number.

For more information visit your local Security office, see <http://www.ssa.gov>, or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
A mix of clouds and sunshine.	Partly to mostly cloudy.	Intervals of clouds and sunshine.	Sunshine mixed with some clouds.	Partly sunny.	Plenty of sunshine.	Clouds and some sunshine.	Clouds and occasional sunshine.
▲ 62°	▼ 40°	▲ 58° ▼ 26°	▲ 58° ▼ 28°	▲ 60° ▼ 30°	▲ 62° ▼ 32°	▲ 64° ▼ 34°	▲ 59° ▼ 20°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	4	Low
Friday	4	Low
Saturday	4	Low
Sunday	4	Low
Monday	5	Moderate
Tuesday	4	Low
Wednesday	4	Low

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	62	40
Canutillo	63	41
Clint	62	41
E. Montana	63	40
Fabens	62	41
Horizon	63	41
San Elizario	60	39
Socorro	61	39
Tornillo	62	41
Vinton	64	41



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	48/28/pc	46/22/pc	44/22/r	48/22/pc	50/24/pc
Atlanta	54/38/pc	54/42/c	52/38/sh	52/36/c	54/35/c
Atlantic City	46/26/c	42/26/pc	40/28/i	40/30/pc	42/26/c
Austin/San Antonio	64/44/sh	60/44/sh	60/42/c	62/44/c	66/46/c
Baltimore	44/26/c	44/28/pc	40/28/pc	42/30/c	44/22/c
Boston	38/26/sn	38/24/s	38/26/c	38/28/c	38/24/pc
Chicago	28/16/c	26/16/sf	32/20/pc	34/24/c	36/26/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	54/38/c	52/36/c	50/34/c	56/36/pc	58/35/c
Denver	32/6/pc	28/8/pc	38/14/s	40/14/pc	42/18/pc
Flagstaff	40/17/c	36/10/pc	40/12/s	42/16/pc	44/14/pc
Houston	68/52/c	68/50/sh	64/48/sh	66/48/c	65/50/c
Kansas City	32/18/pc	32/19/pc	38/21/pc	40/23/pc	38/21/pc
Las Vegas	51/30/s	53/30/pc	53/30/c	57/38/pc	59/34/c
Miami	80/68/pc	80/70/pc	80/70/pc	82/70/pc	79/65/c
Minneapolis	16/0/pc	14/0/pc	20/8/sn	24/10/c	28/12/c
New Orleans	70/52/c	70/56/c	66/54/r	66/52/c	66/52/c
New York City	42/28/c	40/26/pc	38/30/pc	38/32/c	40/28/c
Philadelphia	44/26/c	42/26/pc	40/28/pc	40/30/c	42/26/c
Phoenix	60/42/pc	62/40/pc	62/40/pc	64/44/pc	66/44/s
Portland	44/30/pc	44/36/pc	46/36/c	46/40/r	44/36/sh
San Francisco	56/40/pc	56/42/s	56/44/pc	54/46/pc	56/44/c
Seattle	44/34/pc	44/36/pc	46/36/c	46/38/r	44/36/sh
Tucson	64/38/pc	62/36/pc	62/34/c	64/36/pc	66/38/s
Washington, DC	46/30/c	46/28/pc	40/30/pc	40/32/c	44/26/c

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

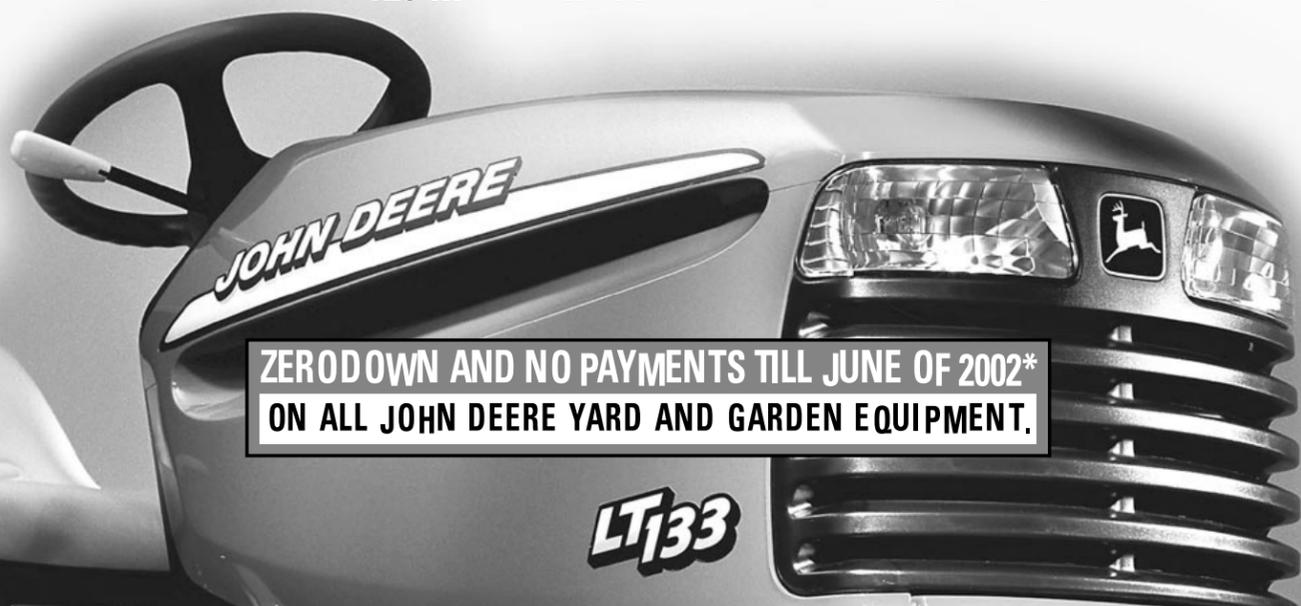
AGRICULTURE

Dry conditions are expected over the several days with a mix of sunshine and clouds on any given day. On Thursday, winds will be from the west-southwest at 9-18 mph. Drying conditions will be very good. Similar conditions are expected on Friday with no rainfall and some sunshine around the region.

All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2002

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 • Shift-on-the-go, 5-speed transmission
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 • Two-pedal automatic transmission
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