

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 29, No. 9

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

FEBRUARY 28, 2002

NEWSBRIEFS

Center certified

The El Paso Community Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center has been certified as a Community Center by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation effective Feb. 15, according to Karen F. Hale, Texas Commissioner. This certification restores local governance to the EPCMHMRC as the authority governing board of Life Management Center. Local governance was taken over by the state in May of 2000. Rosemary Neill, board chairperson of EPCMHMRC, said the hard work of the community has been rewarded with restoration of local governance, and that major redesign of the care system is underway. Changes will include a new name and identity for the organization, she said.

Tolerance forum

Students from Canutillo High School and Canutillo Elementary School will host a forum open to the community to engage in a timely discussion on tolerance. The Open Forum on Tolerance is scheduled from 6 to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 7, at the Canutillo Elementary School Galleria, 651 Canutillo Avenue, and will feature panelists from different professions discussing local and national issues of tolerance. Some of the organizations that will be represented include El Paso Center for Family Violence, UTEP Political Science Department, Border Patrol, International Student Ambassadors, Fort Bliss, Rescue Mission, among others. "In light of the events of Sept. 11, various questions arose concerning national and local security. The forum is designed to take a grassroots approach to address this national issue," stated Ruben Vogt, CHS senior and forum participant. "We hope this open discussion will help alleviate concerns and fears by informing the community." Advisors assisting students with this endeavor are Jan Massie, Canutillo ES fifth grade teacher, and Gary Berglund, CHS social studies teacher. For more information, contact Berglund, at 877-7415, or Massie, at 877-7600.

In other news:

■ The Iron Horses Motorcycle Club and Reach for a Star program invites the community to the Third Annual Poker Run and Charity Auction on March 10, beginning at 10:30 a.m. at Mulligan's, 10710 Gateway North. Any biker or car that wishes to participate can join the ride which will make its final stop at 3 p.m. at the Mission Valley Ballroom in Socorro at North Loop and Horizon Blvd. A Candidates' Auction will be held with many local politicians submitting a "surprise package" to be offered. A bike and car show, a motorcycle rodeo, live music and other entertainment will be offered, with special appearances by Miss El Paso, Miss El Paso Teen and Miss El Paso Latina. All proceeds from the event goes to help critically ill children in the El Paso/Juarez area. For information call 533-1208 or 474-1081.

■ Enrollment for the Head Start Program is now underway for the 2002-2003 school

See BRIEFS, Page 5

No stretch of the imagination is as complete as the one used in filling out income-tax forms.

— Quips and Quotes



GETTING IN TOUCH WITH AG — Canutillo Elementary School Pre-Kindergarten students Gabby Islas and Derek Garcia enjoy a day at the farm with their class during FFA Week.

Kids learn about farm life during FFA Week

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Elementary school students visited Canutillo High School Agricultural Science department for a day of farm life experiences as part of National Future Farmers of America (FFA) Week celebration, Feb. 18 - 22.

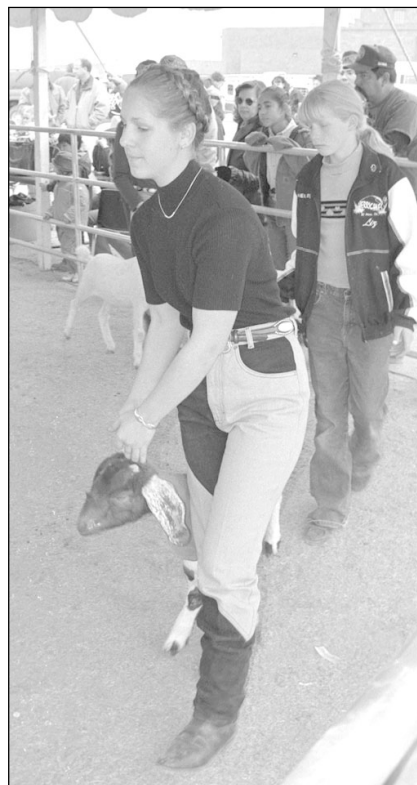
Canutillo High School Ag science department hosted outdoor classroom activities including a mobile dairy presentation, petting zoo, and greenhouse displays for students from the four CISD elementary schools.

Students in the Ag-science program served as guides for the elementary school guests, who were given the opportunity to feed the goats, touch the piglets, and pet the sheep. CHS Sophomore Michelle Bolner and Senior Joseph Ramos also talked to the children about raising goats for competition.

Bolner was a recent winner in the First Class Lightweight Goat category during the San Antonio Livestock Exposition. Ramos participated in the goat judging contest during the Houston Livestock Show Feb. 23.

Bolner and Sophomores Leo Rivera and Farrell Searls also participated in the calf scramble during the Houston Livestock show.

HITTING THE JACKPOT — Canutillo FFA also sponsored its First Annual Goat Jackpot, Saturday, Feb. 2. The jackpot included a variety of goat events including a breeding meat goat show, both junior and senior pee-wee show and a market goat show. The Grand Champion in the market awards received a goat trailer put together by students and sponsors from Canutillo's Ag-Science Department. Winners also took home custom designed belt buckles, gift certificates, tack buckets and a metal show box. Canutillo High Sophomore Michelle Bolner, pictured here, took third place in the medium market category.



Dry windy weather prompts wildfire warning from Texas Forest Service

WEST TEXAS — Strong, gusty winds and low relative humidity following behind the passage of a cold front through the state brought heightened wildfire danger along, according to the Texas Forest Service.

State fire control leaders advise extreme caution with all outdoor fire use. While dry, windy conditions prevail, expect wildfires in dormant grasses to ignite readily, spread rapidly and be more difficult to contain.

Texans should look for fire danger to remain higher for the next several days, according to Tom Spencer, fire risk assessment coordinator with the Texas Forest Service.

It is particularly important for everyone to observe proper outdoor safety precautions — the Texas Forest Service recommends postponement of outdoor burning during the current dry, windy conditions. Agency fire prevention leaders also ask that smokers dispose of smoking materials properly, either in an ashtray or crushed in bare dirt. The agency also recommends caution with the use of welding and other spark-producing equipment around dry grass.

Fire danger is greatest in West Texas, where dormant vegetation was already dry before the front came through. Spencer indicated, though, that the transition from low to high fire danger can happen quickly wherever dead grass is present, so all areas of the state will experience greater wildfire risk until weather conditions moderate.

Socorro council revises tow-truck ordinance

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — The Socorro City Council showed sensitivity to local businesses in their reconsideration of the Tow-Truck Ordinance, which has been the topic of discussion at meetings over the last six months.

Local business owners challenged the prior ordinance, asking Council to limit the tow-truck service providers allowed to operate in Socorro to only local providers.

After several meetings, Council approved a revised Tow-Truck ordinance at the regular Council meeting on Thursday, Feb. 21. The ordinance is structured to extend preference to those tow-truck companies that are physically situated within the Socorro municipal limits. The Socorro Police Department may dispatch tow-truck companies that are located outside of the city if the local companies are not able to respond.

In other business, members of Council heard from many concerned community members voicing their opposition regarding proposed rezoning at 208 Midnight Sun from residential to heavy industrial.

After considerable discussion from both sides of the issue, a Council majority ratified the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to not rezone the location.

Mayor Amado Padilla was required to cast the deciding vote, since the vote was tied 2-2. City Representatives Gary Gandara and Joe Martinez voted with the Planning and Zoning's recommendation while Representatives Trini Lopez and Jesus Hernandez wanted to table the agenda item for further study. City Representative Sam Brewster was not present at the meeting.

A public hearing was held on an ordinance requiring that all operating businesses within the city limits of Socorro be registered with the City Clerk. The purpose of the ordinance is to raise the fee from \$24 to \$35. There was no public input, therefore, Mayor Padilla closed the hearing and Council approved the ordinance unanimously.

City Attorney Richard Contreras provided members of Council with an update regarding the annexation process. The annexation being considered extends up Horizon Blvd. from current city limits to I-10.

Contreras would like to schedule a special meeting with Council to designate areas to begin the annexation process, he said.

Canutillo ISD to hold public meetings for community input on new high school

UPPER VALLEY — Canutillo Independent School District has scheduled community meetings to allow input from district residents for the educational specifications of the new high school.

The first community meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Saturday, March 2, at Bill Childress Elementary School, 7700 Cap Carter Road.

The second community meeting is scheduled for 6 to 9 p.m., Thursday, March 14, at Damian Elementary School, 6300 Strahan Road.

Architectural consultants for the new high school and school officials will be on hand to facilitate the community meetings.

For more information, call 877-7476.



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

A rare window on the past

Everyone was so small. You have to stoop just to go through the door. The clothing lying on the bed once adorned a grown woman but it's so heart-breakingly tiny. The shoes on the floor, clearly styled for an adult, are the size of a child's.

You can almost hear their voices echoing in the street outside — a mother calling her child to supper, raucous laughter from the nearby saloon.

You can almost feel their fear at the report of an Apache raiding party in the area — or their sorrow when another broken body is brought in from the railroad, a casualty of all-too-frequent construction accidents as these hardy people attempted to tame the New Mexico-Arizona territory.

It is still a question of whether anything was really tamed during the years of waterless struggle by the inhabitants of the historic railroad ghost town of Steins. The windswept desert valley watched over by Steins Peak is inhabited now only by the town's conscientious owners and their friends — two donkeys, several goats, chickens and more than a few cats.

The town is pure history, the kind you can't get walking through the usual Old West museum. There is no glass separating you from the reality of a tattered woolen quilt, a dusty wood stove, the spider webs hanging in the rafters over a child's ruffled rocking chair or the heart-rending rag doll left behind when her playmate moved on.

The town died out after World War II but inside the 10 or so original buildings still standing the lives and lifestyles of the 1,300 people who lived here is preserved with startling reality.

You almost expect one of them to walk in the door, offer you a cup of coffee and kindle a fire in the cookstove.

When Larry and Linda Link purchased the seven and a half acre townsite in 1988, they discovered their purchase included a treasure trove of his-

torical artifacts stored in trunks and boxes throughout the township.

The silent shelves are lined with books, hundreds of them. The kitchens are still furnished with original food containers and utensils. A canister of "Knock-Em-Dead" bed bug eradicator is a haunting witness sitting on a tiny dresser in the bordello.

Steins was named after Captain Enoch Stein, a U.S. Army officer who was the first white man to sign a treaty with the Mimbres Apaches.

As history knows, it didn't last. The area around Steins was the site of torture and slaughter of stage passengers by Cochise when he attacked the Butterfield Overland Stage. The Butterfield road was closed in 1861 at the onset of the Civil War and the territory was terrorized for years by the likes of Geronimo, the Apache Kid, and Black Jack Ketchum, the infamous horse thief and train robber who appreciated the fact that the train had to slow down significantly as it climbed the grade toward Steins.

Steins became a work station for the Southern Pacific Railroad in the early 1880's, and the town reached its peak between 1905 and 1945. Most of the existing buildings were constructed during that time from adobe, rough-cut lumber and salvaged railroad ties. Water was hauled in from Doubtful Canyon to service the steam engines.

You could buy a barrel full for a dollar.

With the advent of the diesel engine, however, Steins no longer functioned as a water stop for the railroad and its residents had to move on or starve.

In their going they left behind a tale of struggle and survival, illustrated with the very belongings that comforted and sustained them. It's well worth reliving, remembering.

Steins is located at Exit 3 on Interstate 10, in New Mexico but within spitting distance of the Arizona border. They get their mail at P.O. Box 2185, Roadforks, N.M. 88045, and their phone number is (505) 542-9791.



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SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABIENS, SAN ELIZABO AND TORNELLO

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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.

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Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

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Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Texas was unfair and unwise in closing Speaking Rock Casino



El Paso is fortunate to have the Tigua or Ysleta del Sur Pueblo. This pueblo is the oldest community in Texas. Ysleta del Sur was established in 1681 by refugees from the pueblo uprising against the Spanish in New Mexico. Spanish missionaries and loyal Tigua Indians settled at El Paso del Norte. The tribe was federally recognized in 1987 through an act of Congress, the "Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act" (P.L. 100-89). This law not only gave the Tigua tribe federal recognition, but also recognized the tribe's sovereignty as an American Indian nation.

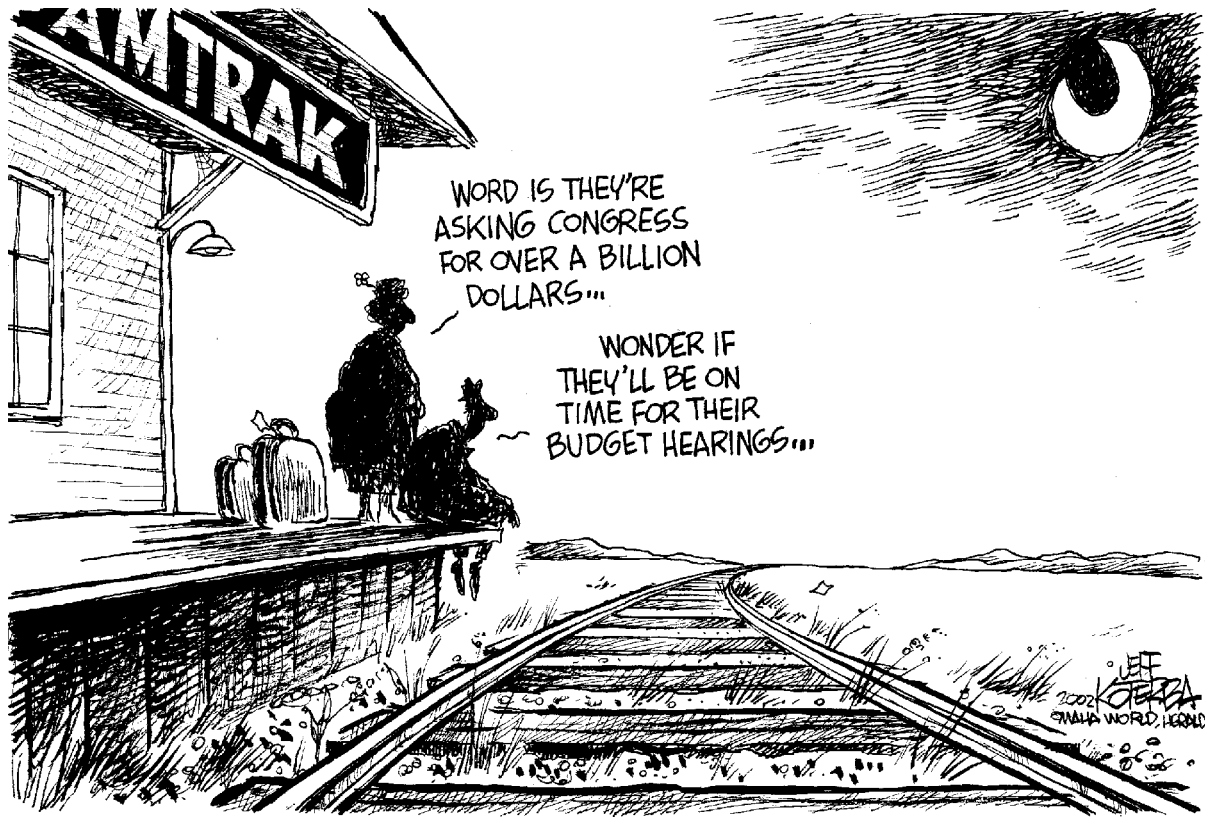
Speaking Rock Casino, operated by the Tiguas until last week, was highly successful. It not only generated between \$50 to \$60 million each year, which was used for the benefit of the Tribe, but the casino created over 800 jobs and contributed \$824 million to El Paso's economy over the past five years. The revenues allowed the purchase of a 68,000-acre ranch in West Texas rich in Tigua history, and funded a new housing project with a swimming pool and library. Per capita payment averaged \$20,000 per year, with funds held in trust for minors.

Speaking Rock was of great benefit to the Pueblo and to the people of El Paso. The casino's annual payroll

was about \$14 million, and since the opening of Speaking Rock, unemployment within the tribe was virtually eliminated. Due to the casino, property values within the area increased above average for the entire county and businesses thrived. In addition, the Tribe contributed more than \$3 million to various causes and charities. In 2001, the tribe donated about \$780,000 to charitable organizations.

It is ironic that during this time when our nation is at war, and many of the young men and women of the Tigua tribe are faithfully defending our country, the state is undermining one of the most basic and fundamental American Indian rights, the right to tribal self-determination. The closure of this casino is economically devastating to the Tigua tribe, and sets a bad precedent towards eroding tribal sovereignty.

The casino gave the Pueblo the opportunity to build new housing, establish healthcare, and start new business enterprises. Speaking Rock Casino gave the Tribe the resources to be able to provide this generation of tribal children with educational opportunities that were unreachable in the past. The casino gave the Tiguas the ability to move out of poverty and chronic unemployment. I am saddened by the attack on the Tribe's sovereignty and the continuation of the practices of the State of Texas to our American Indian populations.



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

Remembering an American patriot

Last week marked the 270th birthday of "The Father of our Nation": George Washington. President Washington is still hailed today as one of America's greatest leaders. This holiday pays great tribute to a great American patriot.

George Washington was born on Feb. 22, 1732 to a Virginia farming family. His upbringing focused on learning the morals, manners, and body of knowledge requisite for an 18th century Virginia gentleman. He pursued two intertwined interests: military arts and western expansion. Many of his early lessons followed him through his years of service and leadership.

Washington demonstrated his tremendous leadership qualities long before becoming the first President of the United States. During our nation's Revolutionary War, Washington proved himself to be a great general as he led our troops in the war for independence from Britain. As Commander-in-Chief of the Army, Washington defeated the British, and America soon became its own free nation.

Shortly after the war, he became the first President of the United States of America. There were several men that could have been chosen for this esteemed position. Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and John Adams were all involved in the political landscape of our nation. But it was George Washington who was unanimously chosen by his contemporaries to serve

as our first president. This is a true measure of greatness. These men looked first to Washington, knowing his leadership skills and his potential to make our nation great.

Washington served as president from 1789 to 1796. In eight short years, Washington helped to establish our nation's Constitution and defined the president's role in the new country. It is George Washington we have to thank for the notion of creating our nation as a democracy. He had the foresight to step down after his second term, hoping to bring America one step further from the monarchy rule of Britain. This was an instrumental move, which taught our nation the importance of elections and democracy. In a letter to James Madison, Washington wrote, "As the first of everything, in our situation will serve to establish a Precedent. It is devoutly wished on my part, that these precedents be fixed on true principles." The model and examples that George Washington established are still respected today. Put simply: he created the foundation upon which America was built.

Citizens of our new nation began celebrating George Washington's birthday long before his death. The first public celebration of Washington's birthday was held in 1781 during the American Revolution. Americans were eager to pay respect to the leader who encouraged a strong democracy as the foundation of their new nation. Troops marched

through the streets and the day was made an official holiday. Very few men in history have received this type of honor during their lifetime.

This celebration has lasted for almost three centuries. Everywhere across our nation, people can find examples of Washington's birthday celebrations. Take for example a city right here in the 23rd district. Laredo, Texas is host of the largest and oldest celebration of Washington's birthday. I am very proud of Laredo and was proud to help them this year as they as they hosted their 103rd Washington Birthday Celebration. The event includes everything from parades and balls to a jalapeño eating contest. The celebration cleverly combines true American patriotism and a little border flair. I think George Washington himself would be proud to look down on these celebrations.

Washington's birthday is commonly celebrated today as President's Day. This is a day designated to honor the contributions of the many great presidents who have shaped this great nation. It should be more than a chance to shop for "President's Day Sales" events, and we should teach our children about the first American patriot, the father of our country, President George Washington.



UTEP

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Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7:05 PM

Come and Honor the 1966 National Championship team

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TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger Moore Feb. 20, 1943, Pilot flight school opens at Avenger Field near Sweetwater. It was the first co-ed flight school in the U.S.



If you didn't have a map you didn't get land in Mexican Texas

History of Texas Public Lands - Part Seven

TEXAS — The sketches and maps made by surveyors were integral to preparing the actual documents that would grant a Texas settler title to land in Mexican Texas.

These very first detailed maps of Texas are of a type called "cadastral"

maps; that means they are specifically made to show the boundaries of land ownership. These maps also played a significant role in acquiring information necessary to make many of the comprehensive Texas maps that were to come in the 1830s. A

number of these maps have survived and can be found at the Texas General Land Office.

A very important feature of land maps was showing where vacant land remained. A map also provided a visual record of claims and their status. By looking at and using the maps, an *empresario* could keep track of which claims had yet to receive their titles. Some of the maps that were made for Stephen F. Austin show names entered on grants and then scratched out as settlers changed their minds about their choice of land. There are cases where as many as three names have been scratched out on one grant.

Theoretically, land was surveyed after a settler chose a location. However, the surveyors in Austin's Colony surveyed large areas before the land was settled, leaving blanks on their field notes so the name of the title holder could be filled in later. Austin could then present prospective settlers with a choice of tracts in specific locations, which let him try to manage the course of settlement in a more orderly way than if settlers just located wherever they wanted. Stephen F. Austin was apparently Texas' first residential land use planner.

To get your piece

An individual or family had to go through several steps, based on the requirements set out in the Mexican colonization laws, to be admitted into a colony and receive title. Austin's Colony was particularly thorough in documenting the colonization process

and its records remain intact, leaving us an excellent example to look at today.

Anyone wishing to settle in Austin's Colony was required to submit a detailed application that included the names and ages of family members, a list of dependents, and statements attesting to the applicant's good character. The settler also signed a promissory note at this time, saying that he would pay a sum of \$50 in two installments: \$10 due on receipt of the title, and the remaining \$40 to be paid in one year. After that, the settler looked for the land he wanted to own. This was usually chosen from the land that Austin had already had surveyed. On occasion, a prospective landowner would ask Austin to choose the land himself, sometimes specifying a preferred general area, sometimes not. Many settlers travelled to Texas first by themselves, took care of the business details and selection of a piece of land, and then returned for their families.

Land was initially surveyed in tracts fronting the rivers, typically in long lots. Austin would instruct the surveyors as to how these tracts should be laid out, taking into account the presence and amount of timber. Austin also made every attempt to see that no lot was more desirable than another. But complaints of favoritism were not uncommon, in spite of his efforts.

The legal land title itself was a formal document, written in Spanish, with carefully delineated contents.

The geography of Mexican Texas

When Texas was part of Mexico, its boundaries were somewhat different from what they are today. The northern and eastern boundaries haven't changed much. But the southern boundary, once marked by the Nueces River, is now marked by the Rio Grande. The area between these two rivers used to be part of the Mexican state of Tamaulipas instead of Texas, and much of what is today west Texas was then part of the state of Chihuahua.

The political geography of Texas was different, too. During most of the Mexican period, Texas was a subdivision of the state of Coahuila and Texas. The state legislature and the governor were located in Saltillo, which was the capital of the state of Coahuila and Texas.

The governor appointed the principal governmental official for Texas, who was called the political chief and was located in San Antonio. He was responsible for enforcing the laws, administering justice, and commanding the militia. He was also responsible — and this was a particularly important function — for communicating legislative decrees and directives from the governor to the local authorities and keeping the governor informed about local affairs. In time, Texas was divided into three administrative departments, each with its own political chief.

At the local level was a body of officials, similar to a city council, called the *ayuntamiento*. Towns of fewer than 2,500 people — and, at this point, that meant every town in Texas — were to have an *ayuntamiento* elected by the citizens and made up an *alcalde*, two *regidores* (council members) and a *síndico procurador* (much the same as a district attorney). The municipalities kept records, took charge of local law enforcement and judicial proceedings, and administered public works such as building roads. Within Texas, the area that was actually settled during the Mexican period was mostly concentrated in east Texas, southeast of the San Antonio Road.

(Part VIII 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.)

City of Socorro PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:30 p.m. during the City Council Meeting of Thursday, March 7, 2002 at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the following proposed ordinance(s):


- 1) An Ordinance regulating the use and operation of All-terrain Vehicles within the municipal limits of the City of Socorro, Texas.

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

TERE RODRIGUEZ
City Secretary

WTCC: 02/28/02





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SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Respond:

Competitive Sealed Proposals for providing all labor and materials for the construction of the Socorro ISD Additions and Improvements. Proposal Package will be received at Socorro Independent School District, 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79927 until 3:30 p.m., local time, Tuesday, March 5, 2002, at which time the identity of the respondents will be publicly read out loud.

Proposals shall be addressed to Socorro Independent School District; all proposals must be sealed and clearly marked as follows:

SOCORRO ISD ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS

Bidders may obtain pro-

posals documents by contacting:

Wright & Dalbin Architects, Inc. 2112 Murchison El Paso, Texas 79930 Attn: Geoffrey Wright Phone: (915) 533-7733 Fax: (915) 532-7733

Bid deposit is refundable \$200 per set in the form of a cashier's check or certified check payable to Socorro Independent School District.

Proposals will be received at the Business Services Department, 12300 Eastlake Drive until the specified times.

A pre-proposal meeting will be held on Feb. 26, 2002 at 9 a.m. at Montwood High School located at 12000 Montwood Drive, El Paso, Texas 79936 and will continue to other project site visits. The conference is not mandatory but encouraged. WTCC-02/28/02

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Respond:

Sealed Bids for providing all labor and materials for the construction of the Socorro ISD Pre-K-8 Expandable School, Bid Package: 10100-177 Specialties-Signage only; and 203-177 Landscape will be received at Socorro Independent School District, 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79927 until 2 p.m., local time, Tuesday, March 5, 2002, at which time the identity of the respondents will be publicly read out loud.

Bids shall be addressed to Socorro Independent School District; all BIDS must be sealed and clearly marked as follows:

Socorro ISD Pre-K-8 Expandable:

• 10100-177 Specialties-Signage only

- 203-177 Landscape

Bidders may obtain proposal documents by contacting Sam Corp:

Sam Corp 1201 North Mesa, Suite 1 El Paso, Texas 79902 Attn: Geoffrey Wright Phone: (915) 534-9181 Fax: (915) 534-9184

Bid deposit is refundable \$200 per set in the form of a cashier's check or certified check payable to Socorro Independent School District.

Proposals will be received at the Business Services Department, 12300 Eastlake Drive until the specified times. WTCC-02/28/02

GARAGE SALES

MOVING SALE: Golf equipment, patio furniture, book cases, books, 4 tires-225x60x16, cookware, stereo components and more, 50¢ to \$300. Friday & Saturday, March

2-3, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 3608 Colville, Horizon City. 2/28

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

OFFICE-WAREHOUSE SPACE: Perfect for auto-body & paint, stereo & alarm, parts & accessories - Euro styling. High traffic street across from school and residential area. 3655 Mark Jason Drive. \$450/month. GOLDCROSS PROPERTIES, 779-3495. 2/28

Help Wanted

Cooks, drivers and wait staff. Apply in person at Pepperoni's in Horizon City.

REAL ESTATE

LOTS WITH UTILITIES Horizon area. Close to schools. Five minutes to grocery, bank, gas, bakery, deli and other amenities. One-quarter to one acre. Financing avail-

able. 852-3069 2/28-4/18

OFFICE SPACE

Office & warehouse space, great for retail service, thrift shops. Mark Jason Drive, \$450/month. 779-3495. 2/28

SELF-HELP OPPORTUNITIES

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

Alcoholicos Anónimos Grupo Paso Del Norte sesiones lunes a sábado, 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 solución. Visitemos. Alcoholicos Anónimos, Grupo 8 de Enero, 15360 Horizon Blvd., Horizon City, sesiones lunes a sábado a 8 de la tarde. Informacion: 859-0484.

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View from here By Michael Sullivan

What's the worst tax for Texas?

New study finds income, property taxes worse than sales tax

MIDLAND — A new study unveiled in Midland, Texas finds that an income tax would be a drag on Texas' economy, and suggests that reliance on sales taxes and user-fees will harm economic growth the least.

"During the 1990s, almost 3 million people moved from states with incomes taxes into states without income taxes. That means that excepting Sundays, some 1,000 people moved into states without income taxes every day for nine years," said economist Richard Vedder, PhD, referring to his new study for the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

The study, the first of a six-part examination of taxes in the Lone Star State, is available at the TPPF website, <http://www.tppf.org/tax/worsttax/>.

Vedder, a former economist for the congressional Joint Economic Committee, finds that keeping the tax burden low is the most critical economic

priority, but that the "wrong" tax can seriously reduce the growth of jobs and personal income. He found that real personal income growth was more than twice as high in the states raising taxes the least, or not at all, compared with the states with the biggest increases in tax burden. Further, the increase in tax burden was three times greater in states enacting an income tax within the last 40 years compared to states with no income tax, Vedder finds.

"While the income tax has the most economically adverse effects, property taxes are not far behind," said Vedder, noting that sales taxes are less economically harmful. "Lawmakers should tell those who advocate new or increased taxes: Don't mess with Texas!"

TPPF president Jeff Judson told supporters and friends in Midland where the findings were announced that state

leaders must recognize that there must be limits on state spending.

"People who feel the state must raise taxes to meet human needs in the state are overlooking the mountain of research showing that a tax increase will actually increase human misery, not reduce it," said Judson. "Texas has weathered the national economic downturn in part because our business climate is so good. We shouldn't sabotage ourselves by doing the two things we know will destroy growth: raise taxes or implement an income tax."

Dr. Vedder's study includes four "Principles to Live By" for tax policy decision-making:

- Keep the overall tax burden low.
- Make relatively heavy use of sales and other forms of consumption taxation, and make little or no use of income taxation. States without an income tax should under no circumstances create one. Try to keep property tax burdens moderate as well.
- De-emphasize federal grants-in-aid, and do not increase local spending to "match" federal funds.
- Charge user fees directly to those who use governmental services

The Texas Public Policy Foundation is a non-profit research institute dedicated to the principles of limited government, free enterprise, private property rights, and individual responsibility. The work of the Foundation is supported entirely through the contributions of charitable foundations, businesses and individuals who ascribe to these principles.



Blackwood Brothers bring gospel performance to Horizon

HORIZON CITY — The original Blackwood Brothers Quartet was formed in 1934 in the hills of Mississippi and the tradition of singing longtime gospel favorites continues to this day as Mark Blackwood leads a new performing generation. Mark's father, the late Cecil Blackwood, was baritone for the group for 46 years, and Mark has been singing along since age nine. Shown here, far right, Blackwood will be joined by Paul Acree, Jerry Thompson, and Dean Haskins at the First Baptist Church of Horizon City, 17018 Darrington Rd., on Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m.

Briefs

From Page 1

year for sites in the Clint School District, including the Clint Early Head Start, Desert Hills, Frank Macias, Montana Vista, Red Sands and Surratt. For more information call 851-2305.

■ The Navy Junior ROTC Unit at San Elizario High School will be having their Unit Activation Ceremony at 10:00 a.m. on March 15, 2002. Everyone in the community is cordially invited to attend. Those planning to attend are asked to arrive no later than 9:30 a.m. for seating.

■ Three Socorro ISD cadets in the NJROTC battalions were nominated for the national Joseph C. Gilliam Academic Achievement Award. Cadet Commander Ledy Rodriguez of Americas High; and Cadet Ensign Susana Flores and Cadet Ensign Cynthia Palacios of Socorro High competed with their academic achievements and demonstrated leadership abilities. Rodriguez was selected as third highest of 15 nominations from the 70 schools in NJROTC Region 10.

■ Loya Primary School in San Elizario is raising funds to assist two-year-old leukemia patient Karelyn Cordero through the "Pennies for Patients" program sponsored by the Lymphoma Society which serves patients in El Paso County and in New Mexico. During the week of March 4-8, Loya students will be collecting loose change.

■ Resources for the elderly and caregivers will be addressed during a free seminar on Tuesday, March 5, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Church of the Incarnation, 15000 Darrington Rd. in Horizon City. Presenters for the program include Solidar Cabazos, social worker and therapist with Hospice of El Paso; Herlinda Gutierrez, social worker and therapist with the Visiting Nurses Association; Adan Dominguez, director of the Area Agency on Aging; Bill Day, regional superintendent with the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation; Rosemay Castillo, executive direc-

tor of Bienvivir Senior Health Services; and Peter Nicolaou, executive director of the Lutheran Social Services and Adult Care Center. A question and answer session will conclude the program. Call 859-5689 or 852-4032 for more information.

■ The Bookery, 10167 Socorro Road will host a special book signing by best-selling author Dr. Auriel Michell 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, March 10. He will discuss his latest book "From Deep Within My Soul," his first book devoted solely to poetic writings. Dr. Michell is the author of 14 books including the best seller "Let's Talk Jewish — 99 Questions Christians Would Like to Ask Jews." He is a nationally recognized expert on the Biblical book of Genesis and will also be discussing the latest edition of "The Mystical Art of Kosher Cooking Vol. 2." Dr. Michell lives in El Paso and conducts seminars on Kabbalah and inter-religious tolerance. Information: 859-6132.

■ The Sun Country Doll Folks of El Paso will host their annual show and sale on Sunday, April 14, to the theme of "Let Freedom Ring!" The event will be at the Marriott Hotel, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with admission of \$3 for adults and \$1 children. With dolls being among America's most popular collectibles, the show will feature an astonishing variety of shapes, sizes and styles of dolls which cleverly mirror civilization in all countries of the globe. Several private collections will be on hand for viewing, appraisal of dolls will be offered, as well as an opportunity to take home an addition to your own family. For more information call Janna Daniels at (505) 874-9182 or Diana Jenness at 852-3051.

■ The El Paso Depressive Manic Depressive Association has released internet sites with information regarding contacts and classes for the public. Anger classes can be accessed at <http://groups.aol.com/angersolutions>; teen programs are featured at <http://groups.aol.com/coollinksforyou>; and depression groups are listed at <http://groups.aol.com/mdepression>. The DMDA e-mail address is epmdma@aol.com.



State Representative Manny Najera and wife, Maggie.

The Legislator Who Works For You!

I authored 12 Bills and worked on Amendments and Propositions which became law including:

HB195 — Senior Citizens legislation for a program to protect seniors from scam artists;

HB 653 — Cruelty to Animals legislation that makes certain violations a felony;

Proposition 7 — Veterans Benefits legislation for additional Nursing Homes and Low Interest Loans;

SB 19 — Healthy Kids Amendment that directs school districts to serve Elementary Students Healthy Food and to bring back both Physical Education and Health Classes.

ENDORSED BY:

- Central Labor Union
- Texas Farm Bureau
- Texas Fire Fighters Association
- Texas State Teachers Association
- Texas Federation of Teachers and Support Workers
- Retired Teachers Assoc.
- Texas Realtors Assoc.
- Texas Contractor's Assoc.
- AFL-CIO Union
- Medical Doctors Assoc.
- Texas Hospital Assoc.
- Texas Apartment Assoc.
- Texas Restaurant Assoc.

**★ DEMOCRAT ★
Punch #82**

Boston Red Sox fans want to play beautiful music on Babe's piano

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

Are you superstitious? Maybe everybody, to one extent or another, is at least a little superstitious.

I must admit that every time I go running on the track there's a certain painted line I never step on. I miss that line every time I complete a lap. Why? I don't know exactly but I do it and will probably do it for the rest of my life.

Now I know that some guys eat the same thing before every game. Some guys don't shave if they're on a good streak. Some guys have even gone without a bath if they didn't bathe the last time they won or had a great game.

Let me go on record now and say that I take a shower everyday, whether I run well or not.

Anyway, I've heard of varying degrees of superstition through the years but what I heard last week has got to be the all-time champ.

You've heard of the Curse of the Bambino, right? For those of you who haven't, it's the supposed curse put on the Boston Red Sox after they traded Babe Ruth to the New York

Yankees. Boston hasn't won a championship since then, and that was 1918.

Boston fans have suffered through over 80 years of losing since the curse began while the Yankees have won 26 championships. Some fans have become so desperate to see the darn thing come to an end they're finally doing something about it.

Seems a group of fans in Boston got wind of a story about a piano that rests at the bottom of Willis pond in Boston. But this is no ordinary piano. This piano is said to have belonged to Babe Ruth himself. And legend has it that Ruth tossed it in the pond back in 1918, the same year the Sox last won the World Series.

Those fans contacted the City of Boston and got permission to have divers search the pond. It's about 15 feet deep. The search was unsuccessful but the group said they would come back and try again, with better tracking equipment.

Sounds crazy — is crazy.

The group claims that Ruth was the last person to play the piano and if they bring it up, refurbish it and a Red Sox fan plays it — the curse will be lifted.

Now, this kind of superstitious behavior bor-

ders on insanity.

Let's hope these Red Sox fans are successful in retrieving the piano. At least now they'll have some music to accompany them as they continue to sing the blues.

Oh Canada

Usually I am a big fan of the red, white and blue. USA all the way, I always say. But during the final day of the Winter Olympics I couldn't help but feel for those poor fans up in Canada.

I mean, when you think of hockey, especially in this part of the world, you think of Canada. And when I heard that the Canadians hadn't won a gold medal in 50 years I couldn't believe it.

I watched the gold medal game last Sunday rooting for the United States but after a couple periods it just seemed right that our neighbors to the North should be the ones to stand on that highest podium on the anniversary of their last Olympic triumph.

Nothing will ever compare to the "miracle on ice" game back in 1980, but this matchup came as close as any other since then.

By now everyone knows that the Canadians beat the Americans 5-2 for the gold.

It felt good watching Wayne Gretzke going crazy in the stands. It kind of reminded me of what it might be like when the Chicago Cubs or the Boston Red Sox finally win the big one.

Travelin' Tim

Did you happen to catch the news about former UTEP standout Tim Hardaway? Everything was going great for him in Dallas.

The Mavericks were 37-17 and battling for the top seed in the NBA's Western Conference. TimBug was back in the limelight readying himself for an exciting playoff season.

And just when things were looking their best, the unthinkable happened. The Mavericks traded Hardaway to the lowly Denver Nuggets.

The Denver Nuggets! UTEP could probably beat the Denver Nuggets — on the road.

OK, I may be exaggerating a bit but to go from a title contender to one of the worst teams in the league this late in the season has got to hurt.

Well, it could be worse...he could still be playing for the Miners.

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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

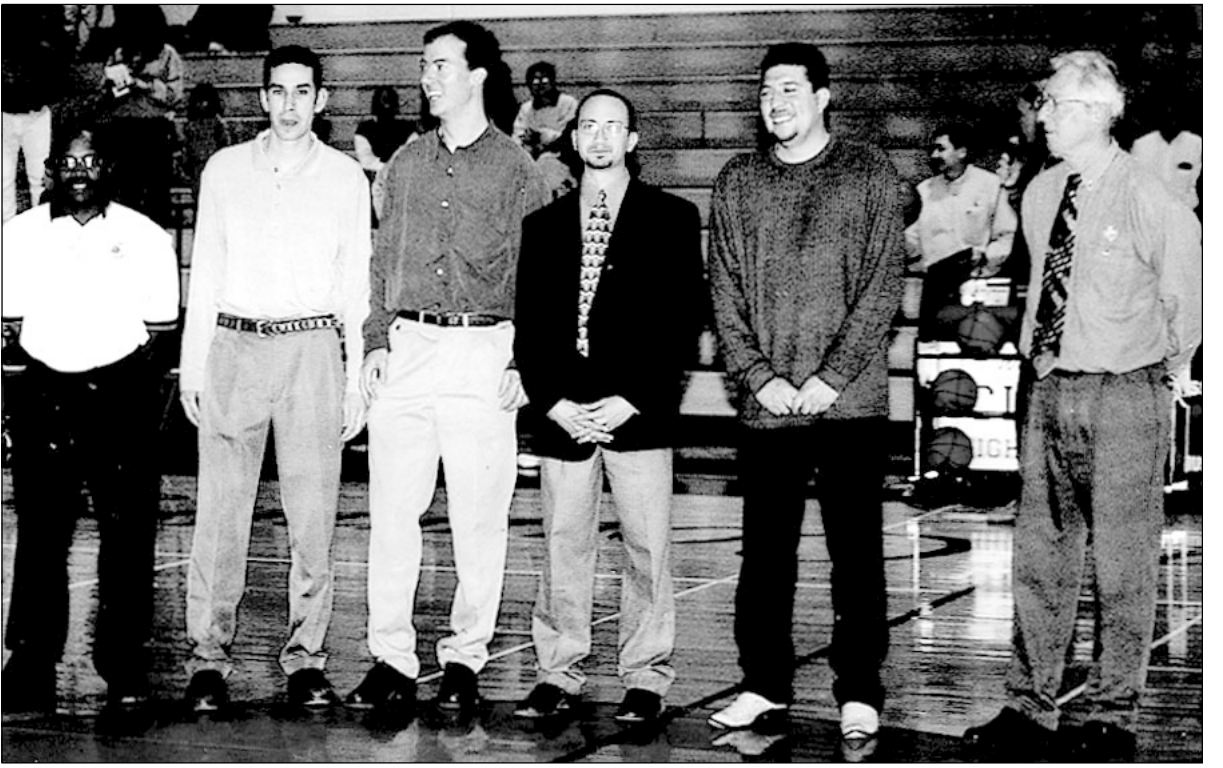
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— Photo by Jan Moore

Clint High basketball celebs of 92 gather for reunion

CLINT — Members of the 1992 Clint High School Basketball Team which played in the State Final Four Tournament in Austin gathered recently at the Clint High School gym to reminisce about their close brush with the State Championship. Clint lost their state game to Stafford 62-56, which gave Stafford the championship. Shown from left is trainer Morris "Doc" Aldridge, Brooks Vandivort, Navin Navidomskis, Ray Sanchez, Eddie Pacheco and Coach David Moore. Members of the 92 team not pictured are Kirk Vander Dussen, Chad Travis, Beto Elias, Isaiah Melendez, Danny Gonzalez, Ray Cereceres, Ryan Jones and Nathan Robertson.

King Super Crossword

- SELF-RESTRAINT**
- ACROSS
- 1 Seaside shelter
 - 7 Zoo baby
 - 10 Donated
 - 14 Capone feature
 - 18 Incarnation
 - 19 Genetic info
 - 20 Surrounded by
 - 21 Singer Melba
 - 22 Start of a remark
 - 24 Leaf
 - 25 Light weight?
 - 26 Shoemaker's tool
 - 27 TV's "Empty _"
 - 28 Wine choice
 - 30 Ray
 - 32 Frantic Fawley
 - 35 Wrapped up
 - 36 Hersey town
 - 39 Upscale shop
 - 40 Contemptible
 - 41 Part 2 of remark
 - 46 Funnyman Foxx
 - 50 Roth _
 - 51 Coffee or cognac
 - 52 Orient
 - 54 Singer Salonga
 - 55 Reasonable
 - 57 Actress Jean
 - 58 Origami supply
 - 61 Word with nose or numeral
 - 63 Pop in
 - 65 Any
 - 66 _-garde
 - 67 Monty Python's Michael
- 70 Part 3 of remark
- 74 Tightly packed
- 75 Overact
- 76 Director David
- 77 Conclude
- 79 Go over
- 80 Calculating reptile?
- 82 To _ (perfectly)
- 83 Petite pie
- 87 TV-listing abbr.
- 88 British pol
- 90 Straightens
- 92 Bud's buddy
- 93 Foyer
- 95 Part 4 of remark
- 100 Qatar's continent
- 102 Wing
- 103 Discernment
- 104 Peripatetic Polo
- 106 Soft
- 107 Manzanillo man
- 110 Liberace's birth-place
- 112 Lacquered metalware
- 113 "The Simpsons" character
- 116 Atelier item
- 117 Mulgrew or Moss
- 119 End of remark
- 122 Polish prose
- 123 List entry
- 124 Letters of credit?
- 125 Baltimore bird
- 126 Compassion
- 127 Pedestal part
- 128 Mongrel
- 129 Got what one

- basked for
- DOWN**
- 1 Biblical town
 - 2 Profess
 - 3 Cry like a baby
 - 4 ABA member
 - 5 Uh-uh
 - 6 Where the action is
 - 7 Make waves?
 - 8 Component
 - 9 _-relief
 - 10 Cumberland -
 - 11 Remarkable
 - 12 Watch
 - 13 Temptation location
 - 14 '72 Cicely Tyson film
 - 15 Publisher Nast
 - 16 Shaped like a bow
 - 17 Lively dance
 - 21 Complains
 - 23 Ump
 - 29 Rock's Tears for -
 - 30 _-Cat
 - 31 Wolf wail
 - 32 Like Mussorgsky's mountain
 - 33 Clay, today
 - 34 Offspring
 - 36 Sale stipulation
 - 37 Mrs. David Copperfield
 - 38 Deejay Freed
 - 39 "_ Crazy" ('80 film)
 - 40 Sow's sweetheart
 - 42 Outer limits
 - 43 Furnish
- 44 Simon's "Plaza -"
- 45 Charge
- 47 Violinist Mischa
- 48 Big men on campus
- 49 Poet Rossetti
- 53 Carpentry or printing
- 56 Lloyd Webber musical
- 58 _ bear
- 59 Congregational comeback
- 60 Basilica feature
- 62 Public
- 64 Bumbling
- 65 "Graf _"
- 67 Australian city
- 68 Basic organism
- 69 Anesthesia type
- 71 Vintage
- 72 Bandleader's phrase
- 73 Russian lake
- 78 _ shui
- 80 Zone
- 81 Turn blue?
- 82 Rocker Van Halen
- 84 "The Sound of Music" setting
- 85 Carrot or parsnip
- 86 Adjust an Amati
- 89 Tearjerker?
- 90 Made wine divine
- 91 Muchacha, for short
- 94 Theft
- 96 Intimidated
- 97 Big bang letters
- 98 "Wild _" ('60 hit)

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Van Susteren keeps her eyes on the prize

By Don Flood

Remember to get your bags checked!

Just ask Greta Van Susteren. Van Susteren, the former nerdy, sleepy-eyed lawyer turned Fox news babe, recently got the bags under her eyes removed.

This has generated the most buzz since...well, whatever the last thing was the media got excited about.

But as Van Susteren said, the only difference between her and other celebrities is that she "fessed up."

(That's a direct quote. Van Susteren didn't go to law school for nothing.)

Most 40-something celebrities, when asked about surgery, say something extremely believable like, "I drank plenty of water, got some rest and suddenly I looked 19 again!"

Yes, and I have some valuable Enron stock I'll sell you cheap!

There is also the theory that Van Susteren confessed to the eye job because, really, she got the whole works — the full-monty, pull-the-entire-epidermis-up-to-your-scalp Don Johnson special.

(Because of his operation, Johnson hasn't been able to blink since the mid-'90s. Reports that

Van Susteren blinked three times last week remained unconfirmed at press time. According to her publicist, Van Susteren is a very private person who dislikes blinking in public, but who blinks "frequently" among family and friends.)

But all this points up an important public issue (at least I'm hoping it does).

Should there be a constitutional amendment requiring celebrities to admit to having had plastic surgery?

And in the extreme cases, such as Burt Reynolds and Joan Rivers, should they be required to admit that they are in fact dead?

This is important to our nation's self-esteem.

We are living in a society where people expect to live to 100 and look like Britney Spears. (Britney is 83 and denies having had surgery.)

This goes hand in hand, of course, with the proposed Truth in Hairpieces legislation.

Perhaps I'm more shallow than most (because otherwise why would I be writing this column), but last weekend I watched a Sunday morning news show and every guy who came on I thought, "Is that that guy's real hair?"

Every single one looked as though a skydiving ferret had

landed on his head just before he entered the studio.

I didn't even hear what the talking hairpieces were saying.

But if they had any sense they'd be talking about, yes, the Miss France contest, which is once again mired in controversy.

Last year — this is absolutely true — Miss France was accused of not meeting, um, a certain minor technical requirement: She was, her accusers said, a man.

(Maybe it would be a good idea, during the judges' interview, to ask a tricky question, such as, "Are you a man?")

Following what was called a "close inspection" during swimsuit and ball-gown fittings, officials, led by Inspector Closseau, were able to determine that she was indeed a woman, thus sparing France its greatest embarrassment since they began serving Le Big Macs at state dinners.

This year, the winner was accused of being...short!

A disgruntled contestant (read: loser) said the winner didn't meet the minimum 5 feet 7 inches.

But, hey, at least she didn't have bags under her eyes.

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Healthy newborn babies are no accident, med group says

AUSTIN — A healthy newborn baby is no accident. Advance planning, common sense, and regular visits to the doctor can make critical differences according to the Texas Medical Association. That was the impetus for TMA's working with the Texas Senate to declare Texas Newborn Babies Week Feb. 4 through Feb. 10.

"If just one more baby has a great start in life, our message will pay off," said Rajam S. Ramamurthy, MD, a neonatal and perinatal medicine specialist in San Antonio. Dr. Ramamurthy also is chair of TMA's Committee on Maternal and Perinatal Health.

"Texas ranks second lowest in the nation for women who seek prenatal care during the first trimester of their pregnancy," Dr. Ramamurthy said. "We want to focus attention on that and the importance of improved access to health services for expectant mothers."

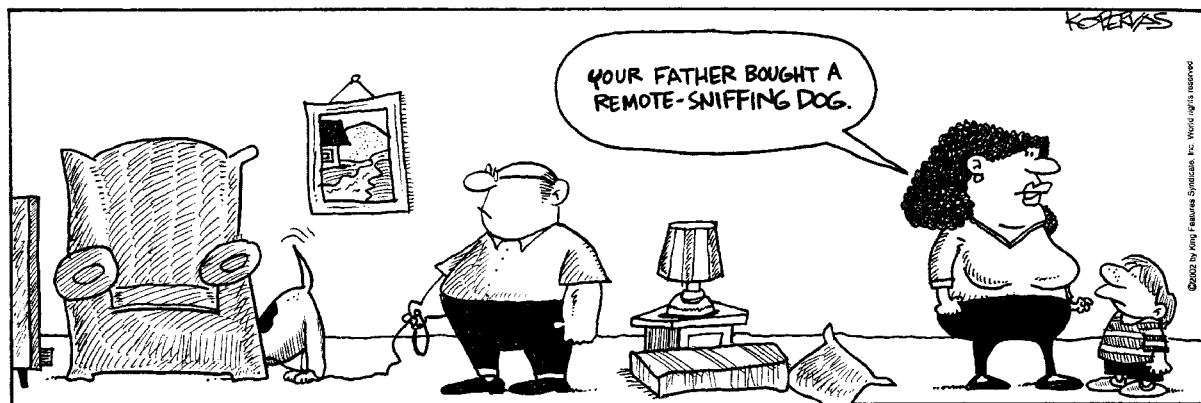
Prospective mothers should think about the best time in their lives to have a baby. Mothers and dads should talk to their doctors in advance of pregnancy to review their health and their families' health for potential health issues.

Other tips for mothers include:

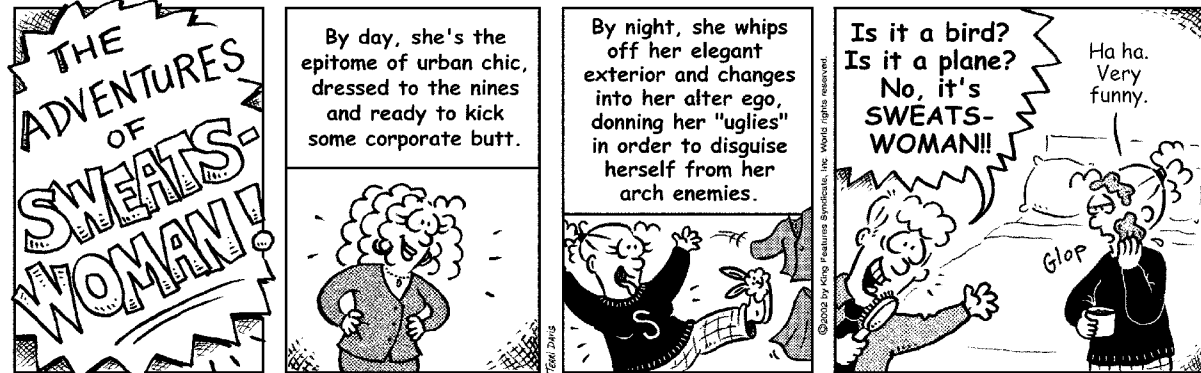
- Take folic acid and vitamins.
- Go to a prenatal clinic if you know or think you may be pregnant.
- Enroll in Medicaid or other insurance.
- Stop smoking.
- Do not drink alcohol.
- Do not take aspirin or other medications without a doctor's permission.
- Do not take street drugs of any kind.
- Eat a healthy diet and get plenty of rest.
- Keep all your prenatal appointments.
- When you are in labor, arrive at the hospital early.

Comix

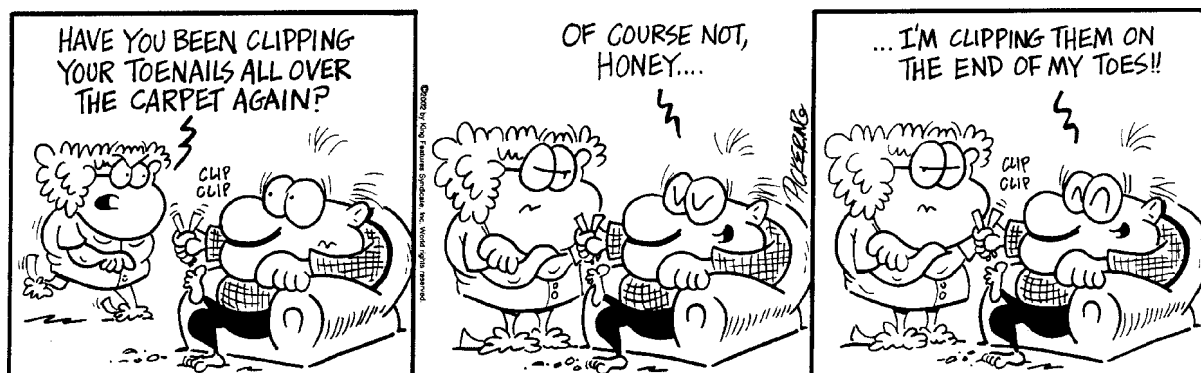
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



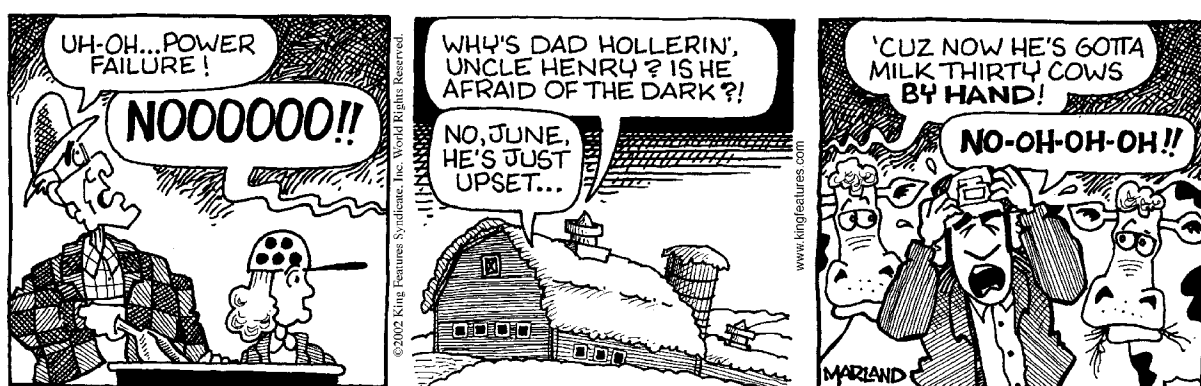
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THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



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Phamiliar phrases

"batten down the hatches"

This saying comes from the shipping industry. In stormy weather, the hold would be less vulnerable if the hatches were made water-tight. A tarp was thrown over the opening and secured with strips of wood called battens.

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Social Security: Q & A By Ray Vigil

Q. How do I pay taxes for a household employee?

A. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is the authority on all tax matters. The IRS has a publication that may be of assistance in determining the status of household employees and how to pay their Social Security tax.

Q. I'm retired and the only income I have is a monthly withdrawal from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA). I pay income tax on the amount I withdraw. I plan to apply

for Social Security benefits in the future. Will the money I've withdrawn from my IRA reduce my monthly Social Security benefits?

Q. I am 53 and had a stroke recently. I applied for Social Security disability benefits. How much will I receive monthly?

A. If you are eligible for disability benefits, they will be based on your average earnings. Although we cannot tell you the exact amount without knowing your earnings history, the average monthly disability ben-

efit in 2002 is \$815. If you have a spouse and one or more children, the average family benefit is \$1,360.

A. No. In calculating your retirement benefits, we count only the wages you earn from a job, or your net profit if you're self-employed. Non-work income such as pensions, annuities, investment income, interest and capital gains are not counted and will not affect your Social Security benefits.

Q. When were the highest and lowest cost-of-living adjustments?

A. The highest cost-of-living increase — 14.3 percent — was in July 1980; the lowest was 1.3 percent —

in January 1987 and January 1999.

Q. My wife, who just turned 60, recently had to retire after 38 years of working because her diabetes had resulted in the amputation of both her legs. Can she get disability benefits?

A. She certainly should file an application for Social Security disability benefits. A person is eligible for disability if they have a severe medical condition that is expected to prevent them from working for at least 12 months or to end in death

Q. I know that Social Security taxes are deducted from my paycheck up to a maximum amount of earnings for

the year. Does Medicare also have a maximum amount of earnings subject to the Medicare tax?

A. No, there is no maximum amount of earnings for the Medicare tax. All your earnings are taxed at 1.45 percent for the Medicare Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, no matter how much you earn.

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 good deal of sunshine.	Clear to partly cloudy.	Sunny to partly cloudy and breezy.	Plenty of sunshine.	Bright sunshine.	Sunny.	A good deal of sunshine.	Sunshine mixed with some clouds.
▲ 64°	▼ 34°	▲ 64° ▼ 32°	▲ 60° ▼ 30°	▲ 68° ▼ 38°	▲ 70° ▼ 38°	▲ 70° ▼ 40°	▲ 76° ▼ 42°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	7	High
Friday	7	High
Saturday	7	High
Sunday	7	High
Monday	7	High
Tuesday	7	High
Wednesday	7	High

REAL FEEL TEMP™

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

Thursday	68°
Friday	62°
Saturday	58°
Sunday	66°
Monday	70°
Tuesday	72°
Wednesday	74°

AGRICULTURE

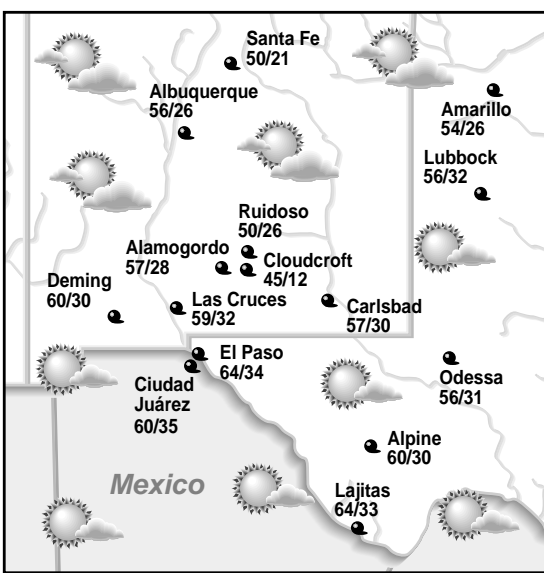
Tranquil conditions are expected Thursday with plenty of sunshine across the area. Winds will be from the east-southeast at 7-14 mph. Drying conditions will be excellent. Quiet weather will continue into the upcoming weekend with a good deal of sunshine across the area.

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

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	64	34
Canutillo	65	35
Clint	59	36
E. Montana	64	34
Fabens	59	36
Horizon	65	35
San Elizario	58	33
Socorro	62	33
Tornillo	59	36
Vinton	65	35

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



TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur.		Fri.		Sat.		Sun.		Mon.	
	Hi/Lo	W	Hi/Lo	W	Hi/Lo	W	Hi/Lo	W	Hi/Lo	W
Albuquerque	56/26	s	52/22	pc	50/24	s	60/28	s	62/30	s
Atlanta	47/28	s	54/34	s	60/40	sh	64/40	sh	59/39	s
Atlantic City	40/25	s	46/28	s	48/34	s	50/36	r	46/26	pc
Austin/San Antonio	56/36	pc	60/38	sh	60/36	sh	66/36	s	67/51	pc
Baltimore	40/20	s	46/26	s	46/32	s	48/36	r	46/22	pc
Boston	41/22	s	36/28	s	40/30	pc	43/31	sn	38/25	c
Chicago	30/24	pc	32/28	sf	34/26	c	34/22	sf	26/10	pc
Dallas/Ft. Worth	58/36	s	58/38	sh	54/32	sh	60/34	s	62/48	s
Denver	40/12	pc	32/12	sn	46/22	pc	48/18	pc	38/18	c
Flagstaff	52/18	s	48/16	s	52/20	s	54/24	s	57/28	pc
Houston	58/44	pc	62/46	sh	64/40	sh	70/42	s	68/48	pc
Kansas City	42/22	pc	38/24	c	46/28	pc	30/28	s	36/34	s
Las Vegas	66/47	s	68/47	s	72/47	s	72/44	s	74/47	pc
Miami	70/58	s	76/68	pc	80/68	pc	78/64	c	73/56	pc
Minneapolis	26/6	sf	20/4	pc	24/10	sn	24/8	c	22/6	pc
New Orleans	56/40	s	62/46	sh	66/44	r	66/42	s	65/45	s
New York City	40/26	s	44/30	s	44/34	s	48/38	r	44/28	pc
Philadelphia	40/24	s	46/28	s	46/34	s	48/36	r	44/26	pc
Phoenix	80/48	s	76/46	s	74/48	s	78/52	s	82/52	s
Portland	54/36	pc	54/38	pc	56/40	pc	56/40	pc	56/42	pc
San Francisco	66/50	s	66/48	s	68/48	s	68/48	s	66/50	pc
Seattle	52/38	pc	52/38	c	52/38	pc	54/38	pc	54/42	pc
Tucson	78/40	pc	74/38	s	72/40	s	76/44	s	78/46	s
Washington, DC	42/26	s	46/32	s	46/34	s	48/38	r	46/26	pc

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

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