

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 29, No. 16

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

APRIL 18, 2002

NEWSBRIEFS

Pumping iron for flag

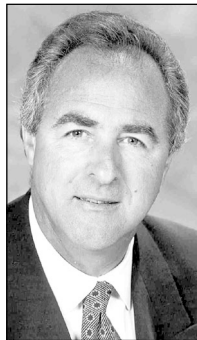
Socorro ISD Instructional Special Ben Causey threw his weight around a little earlier this week at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees. The former Army sergeant major flexed his muscles to lift 300 pounds of weights in a fund-raising venture to erect a 100-foot flagpole to fly a garrison-sized flag at the Socorro Student Activities Complex. The district already has raised more than \$17,000 of the estimated \$50,000 needed for the project that will display the nation's colors in a way to make it visible for miles around. Causey's weight-lifting effort was inspired by various per-pound pledges toward the effort.

High-steppin' Missionettes

The Socorro High Missionettes have been leaving tracks across the nation recently as they received a first-place in team kick and team prop during the Champion Dance Nationals in Orlando, Florida, as well as second and third in other categories. Jessica Rodriguez and Alex Campos, Missionette leaders, also were selected to attend the 110-member National All-Star Dance Team Convention April 3-6. They performed with the 110-member All-Star Dance Team.

In other news

■ After 28 years of marketing and managing meetings, conventions and leisure



travel facilities, William Blaziek has opted to return to his Southwest roots by taking the reins of the El Paso Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) and the Convention and Performing Arts Center as its new general manager. In this position,

Blaziek will oversee the complete marketing and operations and all contracted services of the facility.

■ Several Clint ISD campuses in the Horizon area are sponsoring a presentation on Thursday, April 25 in the Carroll T. Welch Middle School cafeteria to inform parents about the educational opportunities available for their children. The event, offered in both English and Spanish, will begin at 6 p.m. and is sponsored by CTW Middle, and Desert Hills and Frank Macias Elementary schools.

■ Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman announced the selection of Arthur A. Garcia as administrator for Rural Housing Service (RHS), an agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development mission area. Responsibilities of the administrator include managing the programs and support functions of RHS to provide assistance to disadvantaged communities through grants and loans and technical

See BRIEFS, Page 8

With history piling up so fast, almost every day is the anniversary of something awful.

— Quips and Quotes

Clint ISD migrant parent of the year helps out at Frank Macias Elementary

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

HORIZON CITY — Every year, Region 19 and the El Paso County area school districts host a Migrant Parent Conference. This year's conference was held at UTEP on April 12.

One of the purposes of the conference is to recognize the efforts of the migrant parents for their valuable contributions to the school campuses which their children attend. Some of their contributions include several volunteer hours at the campus assisting the staff in a variety of ways.

Each school district elects an exemplary migrant parent to be recognized at the annual Migrant Parent Conference. This year's Exemplary Migrant Parent for the Clint Independent School District is Nohemi Chavira.

Ms. Chavira is a parent at Frank Macias Elementary School in Horizon City where three of her children attend. Principal Pam Howard said she is proud of the school district's choice and felt Ms. Chavira very much deserved the recognition.

When asked why she was so involved at her children's campus, Ms. Chavira responded: "It

shows my children that education is very important. It also helps them get motivated to do well in school and to take it serious."

She added that she is proud of the Migrant Program and its goals. "It helps me out in various ways. It supplies my children with school supplies and also with school uniforms. Currently, I am studying for my GED and the Mi-



MAKING A DIFFERENCE — Nohemi Chavira, left, is Migrant Parent of the Year in the Clint ISD, awarded with high words of praise from Frank Macias Elementary principal Pam Howard. Chavira volunteers at FME where her children attend school.

grant Program is going to pay the fee for the GED exam, which without the assistance of the Migrant Program, I would not be able to afford," said Ms. Chavira.

Other benefits of the Migrant Conference include several workshops that are informative to the migrant parents of the El Paso County area.

Canutillo ISD Seventh Annual Wellness Walk

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

UPPER VALLEY — Canutillo Independent School District Seventh Annual Wellness Walk will be held from 7 to 11 a.m., Saturday, April 20, at the Franklin Mountains State Park. The event is free and open to the public.

The wellness walk is coordinated by CISD Wellness Program and sponsored by local area businesses to promote a healthy

lifestyle. Custom design t-shirts will be available free to the first 300 registered participants and water bottles will be provided. Also, numerous prizes will be given away and a special drawing will be held after the event.

"The Saturday morning activity is set up to allow for open walking, and everyone is invited to walk to his or her own ability. The length of the course is 2.2 miles," stated Karen Judd, CISD Pupil Services coordinator. For more information, call 877-7433.

Horizon City hires lobbyist

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

HORIZON CITY — Mayor Pat Randleel and the Horizon City Council are seeking federal monies to improve the town's industrial park due to the recent experience of significant growth. Toward that end, Council approved a contract with a lobbying firm last week.

During Executive Session at the regularly

scheduled Town Council meeting on April 9, Council discussed the contract with Austin and Copelin Lobbying Services and approved the contract during the regular agenda.

This contract will become effective immediately. The terms and conditions of the agreement include a proposition to seek a Congressional earmark in the amount of \$2,152,776 for Horizon City's industrial park improvements through the Agricultural appropriations bill for fiscal year 2003.

Austin & Copelin will develop a strategy for securing these funds, which includes identification of decision makers, preparation of letters to these decision makers, discussions with committee staff, monitoring committee hear-

No challengers, no contest Town of Anthony cancels election

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

ANTHONY — Three Anthony Town Council members were, in effect, "elected" at its April 9 meeting.

Because Demetrio Cuellar, Orlando Garcia and Chanan Singh had no opposition in the May 4 race the election has been canceled.

Citing a town ordinance based on the election code, Mayor Art Franco canceled the vote and declared the three elected through a "Certificate of Unopposed Candidates."

The Town Council also approved the maximum monthly increase in access telephone line rates. The cost for residential customers rises slightly from 65 cents to 66 cents per line. The non-residential increase is from \$1.48 to \$1.50 per line. Point-to-point is up 3 cents to \$2.29.

The rates, as spelled out in a letter from the state Public Utility Commission, are charged for each phone line and are based on changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). They are fees paid to certified telecommunications carriers, who, in turn, compensate the city.

Because of the fluctuations in the number of lines in the community, city attorney Richard Contreras said it was difficult to estimate the financial impact of the increase in rates to the city.

The Anthony Police Department offered a thumbnail sketch on its on-going battle against graffiti.

Police Chief Placido Nunez and Sgt. Lorenzo Lozoya told the council about the arrest of three men March 30 whom they described as "professionals" from Las Cruces and Albuquerque. The sergeant later showed the three bags of equipment they used. It included 30 cans of spray paint, a respirator mask plus flares used to give a scorched effect to their painting.

When they were arrested, the men were spray painting railroad boxcars along Main Street. Facilitating in the apprehension, Lozoya later said was the fact that police caught the lookout asleep.

Bidding for possible future contracts with the town, Frank X. Spencer and Associates made a presentation, outlining its services to council members. The West Texas company highlighted its services as consulting civil engineers and surveyors.

Council also voted its support for the El Paso International Balloonfest which will be held May 25-27 at Wet & Wild.

ings, and coordination of personal visits with members of Congress.

Fees for their services will include a monthly retainers of \$500.00 retroactive to March and extending until the Agriculture appropriations bill becomes law. The agreement will terminate Nov. 30, 2002. If the earmark goal is obtained, Horizon City will make a payment of \$25,000 to Austin & Copelin.

In other business, Town Council approved the first reading of an ordinance calling for an election on drafting a new City Charter and electing a Charter Commission.

Town Council also approved a new contract for the Oz Glaze Senior Association to manage the Oz Glaze Senior Center.



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Something is missing

There is something missing: Truth and reality.

There are plenty of pretty faces, though, even some intellectual-looking ones. They're all wearing the latest fashions, have great teeth and never seem to have a bad hair day.

They have bright-sounding things to say and know just how to squint into the camera at all the right times, giving even the most immature little girlish face a sort of knowing appearance as she discusses the daily body count in the Middle East as another young person voluntarily blows himself — or herself — into smithereens.

I'm talking about TV news. It's an American tragedy.

There is something inherently discomforting about an arrogant young female news anchor who interviews a man twice her age and a thousand times her experience about issues in which she has neither first-hand knowledge nor experience and then attempts to one-up him when he doesn't give the exact answer she wants.

Too many "news channel" interviews these days are based on the interviewer verbalizing his or her opinion with their "guest" on hand simply to confirm it.

The superficiality of it all is sort of scary. Little wonder the rest of the world considers us one-dimensional, materialistic, arrogant and aggressive. They watch our news people act that way every day on our news programs.

We're way past superficial but our TV news networks don't seem to know it.

The most honest moment I've seen in TV news in recent years was that sparkling fall day when 62-year-old Tom Brokaw, sans makeup, stared wordlessly at the empty place where the Twin Towers once stood.

The superficiality of TV news was scarcely bearable over the last 20 years or so when we couldn't see the

evil Genie writhing in the bottle of world events.

But the Genie is out of the bottle, our world is poised on the brink of crisis, but our news channels are caught up in a frenzy of self-promotion with slogans like "fair and balanced" while they pump the public for e-mail opinions on issues in which the average person has little or no expertise.

I've been in the media business longer than I care to discuss and one thing I learned real early: There is no such thing as an unbiased observer. The eyes and ears of any human being are a living filter and whatever is taken in will be regurgitated with a certain amount of contamination from that filter.

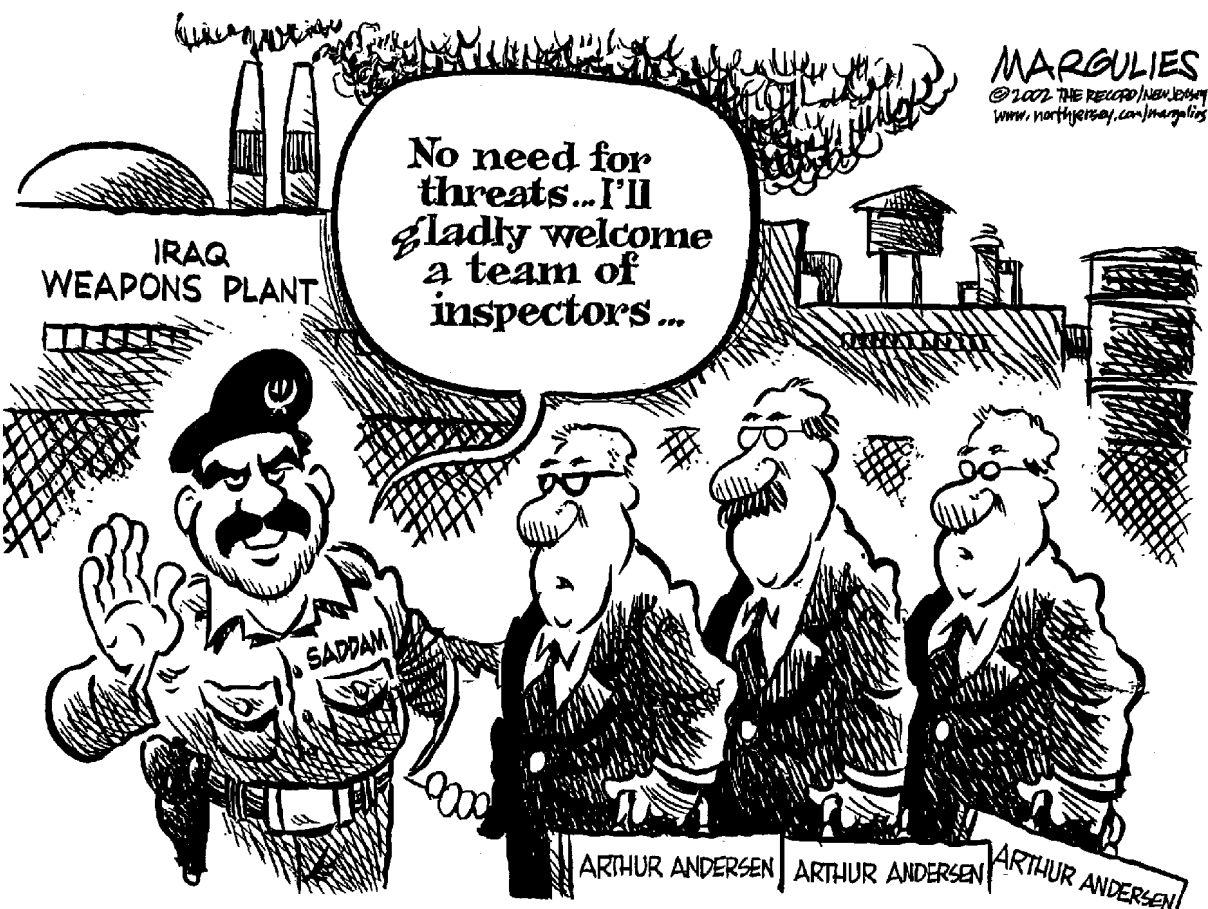
With this knowledge in mind, it becomes incumbent upon every member and organization within the news media to put every effort into giving all sides of the unvarnished truth to the public, right? Wrong.

It has become the norm for news organizations to gather tons of information each day, skim off the stories that have the most blood, gore, shock and entertainment content, shove them through their PC (politically correct) spin mechanism, and splash them onto television with more than a few glitzy, glaring, misleading promos, presented by an artificial face that must compete with weather blips, headlines and stock market quotes that clutter the screen like a barrel of writhing snakes.

This morning I tried to watch the President make a speech. Only moments after he began, the channel began to paraphrase his words in print on the TV screen. This from a news channel which promises to "present the facts and let you think for yourself." Whatever happened to just letting me listen to the man?

There's a really hot little news girl who gets her own glitzy promo

See TRUTH, Page 3



WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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

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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.

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

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

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Horizon City, TX 79928

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Est. 1973
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Member Texas Community Newspaper Association

Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

General Accounting Office asked to audit the USDA and FSA



As Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC), I lead 17 other members of Congress in issues that are important to Hispanics on a national level. Due to my role as the Chair, I am a conduit for Hispanic farmers across the country who are alleging discriminatory lending and civil rights practices by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and one of its agencies, the Farm Services Agency (FSA). The USDA claims that no discrimination has taken place, but the stories that I hear from farmers in the Texas, New Mexico, California, Oregon, and Arizona lead me to a very different conclusion. It is for these reasons that I have called for the General Accounting Office (GAO) audit.

The GAO is the investigative arm of Congress and exists to support Congress in meeting its Constitutional responsibilities. In addition, the GAO helps improve the performance and accountability of the federal government for the American people. The GAO examines the use of public funds, evaluates federal programs and activities, and provides analyses, options, recommendations, and other assistance to help the Congress make effective oversight, policy, and funding decisions.

The GAO audit that I requested asks, among other things, how much time it takes the USDA and FSA to process loans for Hispanic farmers as compared with the non-Hispanic population. According to my constituents, the slow turn around time of loans by the USDA

made it impossible for them to plant their crops until it was too late. The lateness in planting the crops led to the failure of the yield, and ultimately to the default on their loans. Some of these farmers were foreclosed on by the USDA. The preliminary findings of the GAO audit seem to indicate that in pockets across the county, there indeed is delay in processing loans. Some of these areas are where Hispanic farmers allege discriminatory action.

Some of the farmers in the El Paso/Las Cruces area have lost sizable farms. I heard a story of one family farm that owned a farm since the 1950's. The entire family worked the farm and produced alfalfa, sorghum, lettuce, onions, chiles, and pecans. The USDA foreclosed on this 625 acre farm with a loss to the family of over \$2.5 million in equity. In addition, the family lost credibility in the community and has been unable to re-establish a farming operation. I also heard stories of farmers losing leased land, homes, and valuable farm equipment.

On numerous occasions, I contacted the Secretary of Agriculture asking that she stay foreclosure action on farmers who have pending civil rights lawsuits against the USDA until it is determined whether or not practices by the USDA were partially or wholly responsible for these farmers defaulting on their loans. Again, the USDA claims that no discrimination has taken place and therefore is proceeding with business as usual, including

See REYES, Page 8



TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE THAT OVERWHELMING MILITARY FORCE WILL BRING GREATER SECURITY...

THE SACRAMENTO BEE REX BABIN



... LOOK NO FURTHER THAN ISRAEL.

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



Vaccinate your infants today

Would you be surprised to learn that there is one simple step you can take to keep your children healthy? It's not a magic drug. And it won't cost you thousands of dollars. It's a very simple task and one that we all should follow: get your child vaccinated and do it on schedule.

This week marks the ninth annual National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW). Across the nation, efforts are being made to immunize more precious infants. In Texas, you will see this campaign in full swing as little red boots scoot their way across the state to promote "Shots Across Texas."

Vaccinating your children may sound like an obvious step in raising a healthy child, but life is hectic and this step is too often forgotten or put-off for far too long. Vaccinations offer the single best protection for the health of our children and our future.

In today's society, immunization is no longer a luxury, it's a necessity. We all know the old adage, "you're only as strong as your weakest link." In this case, the weakest link is the unvaccinated child.

We often forget how fortunate we are to have access to vaccinations. I have first-hand appreciation of vaccinations. You see, I grew up in a public housing complex in South San Antonio. The people living there were poor, but they provided a hard-working, labor force for the city's factories and military bases. In those days, many of today's vaccinations did not exist. Far too many children suffered serious illnesses that today can be avoided by a simple vaccination.

As Chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, I oversee funding for the Food and Drug

Administration (FDA). This important administration approves, regulates and monitors all vaccines. I have diligently worked to increase funding for the FDA. I understand that too many families are without health insurance. This is unfortunate in itself. But as we work to increase healthcare coverage, let's remember that vaccinations are still one of the best and cheapest ways to protect our children's health. They could mean the difference between life and death — especially if adequate health care is not available.

I am proud of the many parents who have helped increase immunization coverage among children in the United States. Over 90 percent of infants today receive the most critical vaccines by age two. These efforts have translated into a 95 percent reduction in vaccine-preventable deaths. This is tremendous progress, but we must work to stop any child from remaining unvaccinated. There's just no excuse.

There is no reason for any parent to delay having their children vaccinated. If cost is a concern, there are a host of resources to help. Public Health Policy wisely picks up the tab for vaccinating anyone who can not afford to pay. Parents can get more information on vaccines, by asking a local physician or calling the National Immunization Hotline at 1-800 232-2522.

Remember, there is no better way for you to protect your children from disease than by immunizing them. Protect the littlest Texans by vaccinating your infants on schedule.

Truth

From Page 2

periodically, showing her in a variety of costumes from combat gear to traditional Islamic woman's dress.

She has a right catchy name, too — and a friend wondered aloud if that is the name she was born under.

"Movie stars are usually the ones who adopt screen names," he mused, "Oh, yeah, she is a news anchor, isn't she?"

<p>KEEP Barbara Perez-Peña</p>	<p>ELECT John Guerrero</p>
<p>for S.I.S.D. School Board at Large</p> <p><small>Pol. adv. paid Yolie Diaz, Campaign Treasurer, 11252 James Grant, El Paso, TX 79936</small></p>	

LEADERSHIP • EXPERIENCE • DEDICATION

Children come first!

"I was raised in Socorro. I graduated from Socorro High School. My son is a Montwood High graduate, my daughter attends Slider Middle School. I care deeply about this district. A vote for me is a vote for dignity, respect and fairness."



Elect Norma

BORUNDA

for S.I.S.D. Board of Trustees

Pol. adv. paid for by Norma Borunda, Treasurer, 2093 Gus Moran, El Paso, TX 79936



KEEP **Punch #4**
JIM
PENDELL
for **School Board Trustee**

Clint Independent School District

Serving the Clint, East Montana and Horizon Communities

- Clint School Board Secretary: 1993 - 1998
- Clint School Board President: 1998 - Present
- Owner/Operator Fabens S & S Big 8 Food Store
- My children attend Clint schools

Election Day: May 4, 2002

Early Voting: April 17 - 30, 2002

Pol. adv. paid for by Jim Pendell, 14501 North Loop Rd., Clint, TX 79836



Elect Craig
PATTON
FOR TRUSTEE

Socorro Independent School District

Experience:

SISD Trustee, 1996 - 1999.
School Board Vice-Pres., 1997 - 1998.
Chairman of Board of Directors;
Central Appraisal District, 2000 - Present.

Education:

Law degree, University of Houston, 1977.
Bachelor's degree, UTEP, 1973.

Personal:

Attorney.
My wife, Terry, teaches at Helen Ball.
My children attend SISD schools.

"Class sizes are crucial. I want to eliminate overcrowded classes and limit class sizes in the middle and high schools."

If Socorro ISD is the best school district in El Paso County, we should have the best teacher and employee pay scales."

Pol. adv. paid for by Craig Patton, 11904 Paseo Fresco, El Paso, TX

Wife follows husband in death, Florence Beach dies in Washington

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON — Florence Mable Beach, 73, passed away April 9, 2002 at the Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, just 16 days after her husband of over 55 years, Carl Beach, died. Both had suffered from heart disease and emphysema.

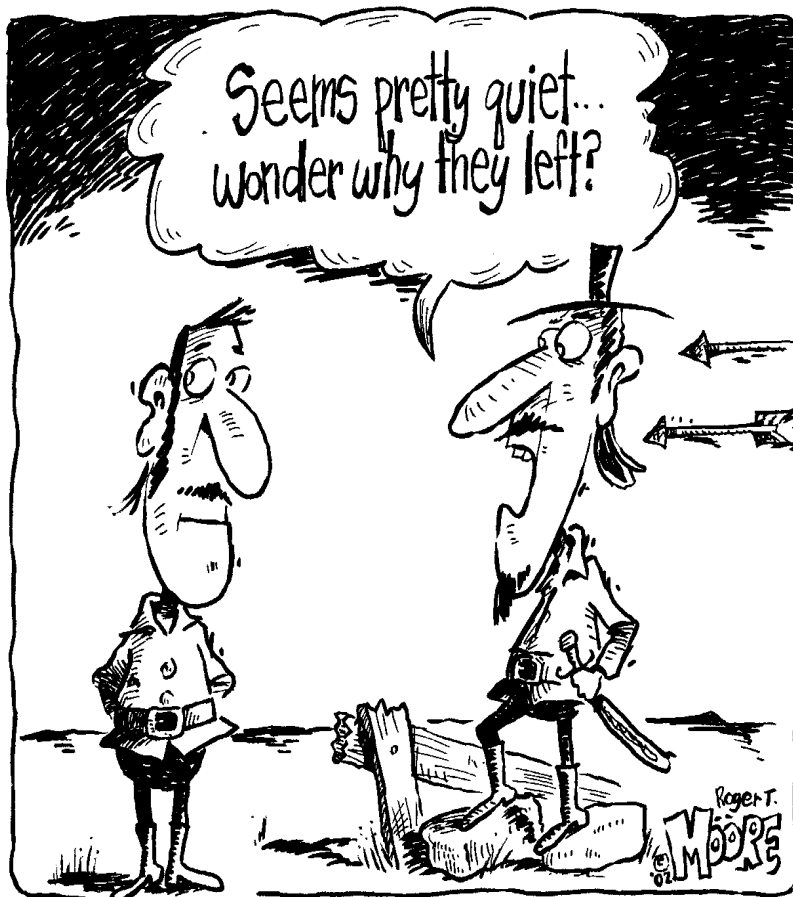
Florence Beach was born May 24, 1928 in Paragould, Arkansas to Solomon O. Ford and Mary Florence Lee Ford. She married Carl Beach in Las Cruces, N.M. on Oct. 4, 1946, and two of their children were born during years they lived in Fabens, Clint and El Paso in El Paso County of which Carl Beach was a native.

She is survived by four children: Thomas Carl and wife Jan Beach of Cerritos, California; Paulette Nagle of Sacramento, California; Charlene and husband Larry Eornest of Irrigon, Oregon; and Rinda and husband Rick Durbin of Post Falls, Idaho; also a sister, Mickey McElyea;



and 10 grandchildren. Florence and Carl had both chosen cremation, and their ashes will be mingled and strewn over the Pacific Ocean from a California hillside.

TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger Moore April 22, 1689, DeLeon discovers the remains of La Salle's Ft. St. Louis.



SANTA TERESA 1st ANNUAL CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Date: Saturday, April 27, 2002
Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: 5523 Naranjo Road
(NOTE: From the Intersection of HWY 273 and Naranjo Rd. go east 1/4 mile on Naranjo Rd. to sale site. WATCH FOR SIGNS ON HWY 273.)

We Will Be Selling:

- TRACTORS
- INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT
- FARM EQUIPMENT
- VEHICLES • HAY EQUIPMENT • 4-WHEELER
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TO CONSIGN EQUIPMENT CALL

- Juan Polanco: (915) 526-3922
- Mike Archibeque: (505) 356-5982 or (505) 760-6195
- Johnny Erramouspe: 505-589-6849

Bill Johnston Auctioneers
Lic.#11905

City of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 25, 2002 during the Special City Council Meeting at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following resolution:

- 1) A resolution designating an official as being responsible for the Town of Horizon City in dealing with Texas Wildlife, for the purpose of participating in the Texas Recreation and Parks Account Small Community grants Program.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk of Horizon City. Ordinances are too extensive to print. Resolutions are always available for viewing or copying upon request from the City Clerk at the above address.

Sandra Sierra
City Clerk

WTCC: 04/18/02

City of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 29, 2002 during a Regular Planning and Zoning Meeting at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding proposed rezoning of the following property:

- 1) Rezoning of the Northeast corner of Darrington Road and Golden Eagle Drive being a portion of Section 42, block 78, Township 3, Texas and Pacific Railroad Company Surveys. Said parcel contains 10.7699 acres currently zoned M-1, Light Industrial to R-9, Single Family Residential.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk of Horizon City at the above address.

Sandra Sierra
City Clerk

WTCC: 04/18/02

Classified Ads

LEGAL

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/ Respond:

Sealed bids/proposals/ CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services accepted at the following times:

SPECIAL SYSTEMS SUPPLIES
CSP NO.199-0429-0217
MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2002, 2:30 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
WTCC-4/18/02

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/ Respond:

Sealed bids/proposals/ CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services accepted at the following times:

DAIRY PRODUCTS
CSP NO.199-0422-0256
MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2002, 2:30 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
WTCC-4/18/02

SOCORRO

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/ Respond:

Sealed bids/proposals/ CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services accepted at the following times:

FULL LINE FOOD SERVICE
CSP NO.199-0424-0258
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2002, 2:30 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
WTCC-4/18/02

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT

SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/ Respond:

Sealed bids/proposals/ CSP to furnish the District with the following products and/or services accepted at the following times:

BEVERAGES AND SNACKS
CSP NO.199-0423-0257
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2002, 2:30 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
WTCC-4/18/02

BARGAINS

FOR SALE: Tires, Vogue,

Whitewall, excellent condition, four for \$75. Desk with chair; Victorian settee with four chairs, \$350; stereo with cabinet, \$250; bookcase, \$18; patio bench, \$20. Call 852-2172. 4/18

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

THREE BEDROOM, 2 bath, 2-car garage, 15355 Northport Crt. in Horizon City. Fully renovated, has appliances. Call 590-2975. TFN

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 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. 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
Windshield Repair Specialists
By appt. at your home or office:
R.V. Dick Harshberger
915-852-9082

BERT'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR
Domestic and Foreign
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HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079
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• Many other plumbing services
Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.

AL'S PLACE, INC.
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Fenced and Lighted Security System
No Deposit
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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

The new Texas government officially accepts colonization

History of Texas Public Lands - Part Twelve

TEXAS — History repeats itself, as the saying goes, and the young republic of Texas found that the empresario system of land grants was the most effective way to populate the new nation. Our historical series on Texas public lands continues.

To bring more immigrants to Texas, the old empresario system was adopted in 1841. Congress relinquished to the president its authority to make colonization contracts after the defeat of a bill which would have located 8,000 French colonists on the western frontier. In February 1841, a law was made allowing the president to contract with W.S. Peters and 19 associates to settle 600 colonists beyond the settled area of the northern frontier. All colonists were to come from outside the Republic (most were from Kentucky and Tennessee). Heads of families would be entitled to 640 acres, single men to 320 acres. Colonists obtained the land almost without cost; the contractor received 10 sections of land per 100 families settled, and was allowed to withhold up to half the land granted to colonists as payment for surveying the land, applying for titles, and other services. Colonists had only to build houses and cultivate at least 15 acres on their grants.

A second contract with Peters raised the number of colonists to 800, and a third contract in 1842 provided additional territory. A fourth contract, made in 1843, postponed the deadline for filling the contract by three years and extended the colony's boundaries once again. The colony eventually extended from Dallas, Collin and Grayson counties on the east to Wilbarger, Baylor, Throckmorton and Shackelford counties on the west. A major problem the Peters Colony faced was the entrance of large numbers of unauthorized settlers into the colony, since Texans with headright, bounty, donation and land scrip certificates also wanted to locate in this area. Surveyors sympathized with these people and often allowed them to register their claims. The resulting conflicts led the state of Texas to cancel the Peters Colony contracts in 1852 and grant the contractors land in the semi-arid Indian country of northwest Texas. The company brought about 650 families and granted 879,920 acres.

The 1841 act allowing the president to contract with Peters was amended in 1842 to permit him to contract with other empresarios as well. Charles Mercer, Henri Castro, Henry Fisher and Burchard Miller located colonists on the frontier or in unsettled areas as a defense against Indian and Mexican raiders. Charles Mercer received an empresario contract as a result of conflict between American and English stockholders, a separate contract for 100 families. This contract itself caused controversy: the grant was partly located in the Peters Colony; and Mercer was unpopular, with a reputation as an abolitionist and a speculator. In 1848, a judge ruled that the contract was invalid. The Texas legislature confirmed the colonists' claims to 691,840 acres of land, but Mercer was not able to gain any profits from the colony.

Henri Castro, a Frenchman born in Spain, secured a contract in February 1842 to settle 600 families or single men on 1.25 million acres of land west of San Antonio. Like Austin, Castro established a successful colony at little profit to himself, using more than \$200,000 of his own

money to aid the colonists in any way he could. Between 1843 and 1847, Castro chartered 27 ships to bring a total of 2,134 Alsatians from France, although Texas harbors were unsafe during the Mexican War. These German-speaking farmers and fruit growers agreed to give Castro half their land in payment for settling them, but when a commissioner arrived in 1850 to issue titles, the colonists refused to give Castro the land they had earlier promised. Castro's settlers were issued 299,846 acres of land, less than 10 percent of the amount the contract allowed him to settle.

In 1842, Henry Fisher and Burchard Miller obtained a contract to locate 600 families on three million acres of land between the Llano and Colorado Rivers; settlers were to come from Germany, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark. In 1844, the terms of the contract were altered to permit 6,000 families or single men to gain grants. In the same year, Fisher sold his interest in the colony to the Adelsverein. The Adelsverein, or Society for the Protection of German Immigrants to Texas, was composed of a group of German noblemen who hoped to send settlers to Texas because their homeland was overpopulated. The Fisher-Miller grant was situated far from the coast in Comanche territory. German families were to receive 320 acres of land in the grant and single men 160 acres. The Society eventually sent to Texas 7,380 immigrants who received 1,735,200 acres of land. Many of these people did not settle within the Fisher-Miller grant but instead located at Fredericksburg or New Braunfels, two settlements the Society established as way stations on land that it bought between the coast and the grant. However, a few Germans did make a peace agreement with the Comanches and settled upon the dry and rocky soil within the Fisher-Miller grant.

The cycle repeats

Because many Texans now began to fear that foreigners were being given the best land, Texas repealed its empresario act on Jan. 30, 1844. The Republic had conveyed about 4,494,806 acres of the public domain to settlers through the empresario system, the population had increased from 38,000 to about 130,000, and land prices had risen. Although tax revenue also increased as a result of

the added population, Texas still had financial problems. Conflicts with the Indians were still prevalent in some areas.

One way the Republic financed the operation of its government was by authorizing agents to sell land scrip certificates giving the owner the right to secure unappropriated land in Texas. An act passed in 1841 allowed anyone holding bonds or promissory notes issued by the Republic to exchange them for land scrip at a rate of \$2.00 per acre. Land scrip was issued to obtain loans in the United States and Europe. Between 1835 and 1841, 1,329,203 acres of land were sold, giving Texas some cash, supplies and stability for its securities in the United States.

By 1845, the Republic had evolved from a nation of large landholders into one of small farmers and merchants. When the Constitution of 1836 voided all Mexican land grants made after November 13, 1835, it also voided specific fraudulent and excessively large land grants made before that date. Spain and Mexico had granted large blocks of land to individuals, but the Republic of Texas granted small amounts of land in order to settle as many people as possible.

During its 10 years as a republic, Texas distributed approximately 41,570,733 acres of land. By contrast, Spain and Mexico together had issued land titles to about 26,280,000 acres.

Because it had no money, the government depended on land to finance its operations, so land records were a significant part of the government. The land commissioner, who was responsible for keeping the records and managing the distribution of the public domain, occupied an important position.

John Borden, the first land commissioner, was appointed by President Houston in June 1837. Only 24 at the time, Borden had been a surveyor in Austin's colony and, in 1836, had laid out the town of Houston with his brother Gail. The commissioner had been directed by Congress to gather all land records, which was not an easy task: Borden had neither money, supplies nor employees. In fact, it was three months before he even had an office; he had to store the records in the homes of his friends.

(Part XIII 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.)

Town of Anthony Election — May 4, 2002

Under the new law (Section 2.051-054) of the Election Code the Town of Anthony will not be holding an election May 4, 2002 due to the fact that the candidates on the ballot are unopposed and no write-in candidates have filed to challenge them by the write-in deadline. The election process is rendered virtually meaningless since voters will be able to cast a vote only for the unopposed candidates on the ballot.

Unopposed candidates are: Chanan Singh, Alderman Place Three; Demetrio C. Cuellar, Alderman Place Four; and Orlando Garcia, Alderman Place Five.

Eleccion — 4 de mayo de 2002

Bajo la nueva ley (Seccion 2.051-054) de la Codificacion de Elecciones en El Pueblo de Anthony, Texas, no habra una eleccion el dia 4 de mayo de 2002 debido al hecho que los candidatos en la papeleta de voto estaran sin oposicion y ningun candidato por escrito ha archivado desafiar ha la fecha indicada. El proceso de la eleccion sera virtualmentes sin sentido, pues se lanzaran a los votantes un voto solo por los candidatos sin oposicion en la papeleta de voto.

Candidatos sin oposicion son los siguientes regidores: Chanan Singh, Lugar #Tres; Demetrio C. Cuellar, Lugar #Cuatro; y Orlando Garcia, Lugar #Cinco.

EL PASO COUNTY TORNILLO WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

NOTICE OF ELECTION

On March 8, 2002, at their special meeting, the Board of Directors of the El Paso County Tornillo Water Improvement District ordered an election to be held on Saturday, May 4, 2002, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Elementary School Meeting Room, 19200 Gaby St., Tornillo, El Paso County, Texas, for the purpose of electing directors for positions numbers 1, 2, 6, 7. Early voting by personal appearance shall be conducted at the Tornillo Water Supply Corporation Office, 19225 Highland, Tornillo, TX, from April 17 through April 30, 2002, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on each day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or official State holiday. Early voting ballots for voting by mail may be obtained from Helen Jamison, Early Voting Clerk, Elections Dept., County Bldg., 500 East San Antonio, Rm 402, El Paso, TX 79901 and received no later than the close of business April 26, 2002.

DISTRITO PARA MEJORAMIENTO DE AGUA DE TORNILLO DEL CONDADO DE EL PASO

AVISO DE ELECCION

En la junta especial del 8 de marzo 2002, la Mesa Directiva del Distrito para Mejoramiento de Agua de Tornillo del Condado de El Paso ordeno se haga una eleccion el sabado, 4 de mayo 2002 de las 7:00 a.m. a las 7:00 p.m., en el Elementary School Meeting Room, 19200 Gaby St., Tornillo, El Paso County, Texas, con el proposito de elegir directores para las posiciones 1, 2, 6, y 7. Votacion anticipada sera conducida en la oficina de Tornillo Water Supply Corporation, 19225 Highland, Tornillo, TX, del 17 de abril al 30 de abril 2002, de las 9:00 a.m. a las 4:00 p.m. cada dia que no sea sabado, domingo, or dia festivo estatal. Boletos para votacion anticipada por correo se pueden obtener de Helen Jamison, Early Voting Clerk, Elections Dept., County Bldg., 500 East San Antonio, Rm 402, El Paso, TX 79901 y deberen recibirse antes de el fin de las horas de negocio el 26 de abril 2002.

HOMESTEAD MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT ELECTION CANCELLATION NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 2.051 et seq. of the Texas Election Code, the Homestead Municipal Utility District Board of Directors has approved an Order declaring the following unopposed candidates elected to the position of Directors on the District's Board of Directors:

Director Position at Large: Lorenzo Barrios

Director Position at Large: Delia Garcia

Director Position at Large: Manuel Rojo

Furthermore, notice is given that based on the absence of any opposed candidates or any District proposition, the Board has ordered that the previously called District election to be held on May 4, 2002 is cancelled.

WTCC: 04/18/02

- Master Licensed Plumber #M18624
- Bonded and Insured
- Senior Citizens Discount
- Sewer and Drain Cleaning
- Faucet and Sprinkler Repair
- Appliance Installation
- Mobile Home Repair

Horizon Plumbing
852-1079

Socorro Independent School District Notice of trustee Election *Aviso de Eleccion de Regentes*

The Socorro Independent School District Board of Trustees hereby gives notice of an election to be held on May 4, 2002, for the purpose of electing two (2) trustees At-Large for a full three(3) year term.

Por la presente la junta de regents del distrito escolar de Socorro da aviso que se llevara acabo una eleccion el día 4 de mayo de 2002 con el propósito de elegir dos(2) regentes En General para un termino completo de tres (3) años.

EARLY VOTING by personal appearance will begin on Wednesday, April 17, 2002, and continue through Tuesday, April 30, 2002, from 8:00am to 5:00pm on each day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday. Official state holidays do not include "spring break".

VOTACION POR AUSENCIA en persona comenzará el *miercoles 17 de abril, 2002 y continuará hasta el martes 30 de abril, 2002 desde las 8:00am hasta las 5:00pm en todos los días que no sean sábado, domingo, o día oficial de vacaciones estatales. Días oficiales de vacaciones estatales no incluyen "spring break".*

Early voting in person shall be conducted at Socorro High School, 10150 Alameda Avenue, Horizon Heights School, 13601 Ryderwood Avenue, Montwood High School, 12000 Montwood Drive, and El Paso County Court House, 500 E. San Antonio Rm. #LL117.

Votando por ausencia en persona va ser conducida acerca de Socorro High School, 10150 Alameda Avenue, Horizon Heights School, 13601 Ryderwood Avenue, Montwood High School, 12000 Montwood Drive, y El Paso County Court House, 500 E. San Antonio Rm. #LL117.

Applications for early voting ballots by mail should be mailed to Department of Elections, 500 E. San Antonio, Room 402, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Solicitudes para una boleta de ausencia por correo deben dar vuelta por correo al Departamento de Elecciones, 500 E. San Antonio, Room 402, El Paso, Texas 79901.

The **POLLING PLACES** designated below will be open from 7:00am to 7:00pm on the day of the election.

Los sitios de votación indicados abajo se abrirán de 7:00am a 7:00pm el día de la elección.

Precinct Number (Número de precinto) - Location (Colocación)

- 109 - Jane Habric School 3535 Nolan Richardson Dr.
- 110 - Word of Life Church 11675 Pratt Dr.
- 111/146/165 - Lujan-Chavez School 2200 Sun Country Dr.
- 112/113 - Benito Martinez School 2640 Robert Wynn St.
- 114 - Helen Ball School 1950 Firehouse Dr.
- 115 - Irving Schwartz Public Library 1865 Dean Martin Dr.
- 116 - Montwood H.S. 12000 Montwood Dr.
- 117 - Vista Del Sol School 11851 Vista Del Sol Dr.
- 118 - Myrtle Cooper School 1515 Rebecca Ann Dr.
- 119 - Sierra Vista School 1501 Bob Hope Dr.
- 120 - Americas H.S. 12101 Pellicano Dr.
- 147 - Horizon Heights School 13601 Ryderwood Ave.
- 148 - Sparks Community Ctr. 12899 Sparks Drive
- 149 - H.D. Hilley School, 693 N. Rio Vista Rd.
- 150/152 - Robert R. Rojas School 500 Bauman Rd.
- 151 - Socorro H.S. 10150 Alameda Ave.
- 153 - Escontrias School 205 Buford Rd.
- 154 - Campestre School 11399 Socorro Rd.

San Elizario ISD considers a change in grievance procedures

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

SAN ELIZARIO — What is purported to be an improved grievance procedure was proposed to the board of trustees of the San

Elizario Independent District at its April 10 meeting.

"The current process doesn't insure prompt resolution of complaints," Dr. Gary Brooks pointed out in a presentation to trustees. Brooks is a professor of educational leadership at UT El Paso and assistant vice president for alternate academic programs.

Brooks maintains that his procedure for the resolution of employees' complaints/grievances is only one-third as long as the district's present process which he characterizes as "antiquated" and could take up to 50 days.

"It works like a charm," he stated, referring to his plan that has been in place since 1996 in the Socorro school district. "The present procedure is cumbersome and burdensome to administrators," he said. In his role as a consultant and independent arbitrator, he added that his plan, with trained mediators, relieves administrators from having to deal with complaints so they can focus more on academic matters.

As an informational presentation only, no board action was taken.

In his progress report to the board, superintendent Mike Quatrini said "all campuses are showing gains in all academic areas." He summarized: "Overall, San Elizario ISD is working well to improve in all areas. Specific focus has been on academics, morale, procedures (financial and personnel issues) and failure rates."

In his construction report, construction manager Dan Gonzalez said work on the new administration building is on track and is 75 percent complete. Changes to the glass enclosure of the building's vestibule were approved by the board.

Margarita Grijalva was honored as Employee of the Month. Fuad Abujaawayed, a high school teacher, was recognized as Teacher of the Month.

In other action, the board:

- Approved Waldo Rodriguez as election judge for the May 4 election.
- In a related matter, at the request of trustee Armando Martinez, the administration will look into moving future elections from the middle school to Borrego Elementary. He was concerned about the traffic congestion around the middle school.
- Approved a contract with the County Elections Department to conduct the election.
- Approved the disposal of six vehicles no longer needed by the district.

Texas veterans' loan limit increases while residency requirement goes down

AUSTIN - Texas Land Commissioner David Dewhurst today announced the state will now lend an eligible Texas veteran up to \$200,000 for a home loan, and the Texas residency requirement to participate in Texas Veterans Land Board (VLB) loan programs will soon be reduced to one year.

Dewhurst said the new home loan ceiling follows more than two and one-half years of experience with the previous ceiling of \$150,000, which was more than triple the \$45,000 limit in effect when he took office. Dewhurst said raising the loan ceiling to \$200,000 was in response to requests from many Texas veterans for help in buying homes, and will only have a positive impact on the program.

"Our increase in loan limits gives veterans more choices on where they can live," Dewhurst said.

Dewhurst said all VLB loan programs are funded by the participating veterans.

Dewhurst also said he was pleased

CANUTILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Notice of Election *Aviso de Eleccion General*

To the Registered Voters of Canutillo, Texas:

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on May 4, 2002, for voting in a General Election, to elect two (two) School Board Members at Large (each position is a 3 year term).

Positions held by Jose Damian and Jose Villareal.

A los votantes registrados de Canutillo, Texas:

Notifiquese por la presente, que las casillas electorales citadas abajo se abiran desde las 7 a.m. hasta 7 p.m. el 4 de mayo de 2002 para votar en la Eleccion para 2 (dos) Miembros de la Mesa Directiva de las Escuelas en representacion de todo el distrito (cada puesto con plazo de tres (3) años).

Puestos ocupados por Jose Damian y Jose Villareal.

Location of Polling Places:

Vinton Village Hall, 436 Vinton — For voters residing in the portion of County Voting Precinct No. 2 located within the Canutillo Independent School District.

Canutillo High School, Canutillo, Texas (7311 Bosque Rd.) — For voters residing in those portions of County Voting Precinct No. 3 located within the Canutillo School District.

Canutillo Elementary School, Canutillo, Texas (651 Canutillo Ave.) — For voters residing in those portions of County Voting Precinct No. 4 located within the Canutillo School District.

Fire Station #2, 111 E. Borderland Rd. — For voters residing in those portions of County Voting Precinct No. 5 located within the Canutillo Independent School District.

Olga Kohlberg Elementary School, 1445 Nardo Goodman Dr. — For voters residing in those portions of County Voting Precinct No. 11 located within the Canutillo Independent School District.

Dirección de las Casillas Electorales:

Vinton Village Hall, 436 Vinton — *Para votantes residentes en la porcion del precinto de votacion del condado 2, localizados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo.*

Escuela Secundaria de Canutillo, Canutillo, Texas (7311 Bosque Rd.) — *Para votantes residentes en la porcion del precinto de votacion del condado 3, localizados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo.*

Escuela Primaria de Canutillo, Canutillo, Texas (651 Canutillo Ave.) — *Para votantes residentes en la porcion del precinto de votacion del condado 4, localizados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo.*

Estacion de Bomberos #2, 111 E. Borderland Rd. — *Para votantes residentes en la porcion del precinto de votacion del condado 5, localizados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo.*

Olga Kohlberg Elementary School, 1445 Nardo Goodman Dr. — *Para votantes residentes en la porcion del precinto de votacion del condado 11, localizados en el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Canutillo.*

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Canutillo Elementary School, Principal's Office, Canutillo, Texas (651 Canutillo Ave.) between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. beginning on April 17, 2002 and ending on April 30, 2002.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Vinton Town Hall, Vinton, Texas, 436 Vinton between the hours of 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. beginning on April 17, 2002 and ending on April 30, 2002.

La votacion anticipo en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en la Escuela Primaria, Oficina del Director, Canutillo, Texas, 651 Canutillo Ave., entre las 8:30 de la mañana y las 4 de la tarde empezando el 17 de abril de 2002 y terminando el 30 de abril de 2002.

La votacion anticipo en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en Vinton Town Hall, 436 Vinton, entre las 3:00 de la tarde y las 6 de la tarde empezando el 17 de abril de 2002 y terminando el 30 de abril de 2002.

Applications for ballot by mail should be mailed to:

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan enviarse a:

Helen Jamison
500 E. San Antonio, Room 402
El Paso, Texas 79901

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 26, 2002.

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio del 26 de abril 2002.

Issued this 12th day of March, 2002.

Emitada este 12 día de marzo, 2002.

Carl M. Fietze

Presiding Officer
Oficial que Preside

WTCC: 04/18/02

See VET, Page 7

Guerrero declares candidacy for Socorro ISD trustee

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Residents of the Socorro ISD district will be going to the polls on May 4 to select two members to serve in "At-Large" positions on the Board of Trustees.

John Guerrero has declared his candidacy for one of the positions.

"First and foremost, I would like to state that I am in agreement with the direction the current school board has taken and with the leadership provided to the board and the residents of our district by the superintendent, Dr. Don P. Schulte," Guerrero said.

"Under his and the board's leadership we have seen our school district excel in many areas," he added noting that Socorro has received "Recognized" status from the Texas Education Agency for the last three years; two elementary campuses are now rated "Exemplary," and all three of the district high schools, four middle schools and seven elementary schools are also "Recognized."

"My campaign motto is that a 'College Degree Begins in Kindergarten,'" Guerrero said. "The education of our children is without a doubt my biggest concern and goal. If elected, I will work for three groups: our children, their parents and our teachers.

"Every action that I take as a board member will reflect those goals...I will be a voice for all of our residents. I will not 'micro-manage' and most certainly will not have a personal agenda or goals that I feel should be

met. I will do everything in my power to always represent (the district residents) with dignity, honesty, compassion and respect."

Guerrero said the district is progressing well in the construction of nine additional schools to meet current population growth, supported by the 1999 \$120 million bond issue, and in improving district facilities including libraries, fine arts services, cafeterias, and parking lots. He said he will be a strong force to continue these improvements.

Also a strong supporter of teachers, Guerrero said he favors current district policy that makes SISD "a leader in pay and benefits for teachers not only at the entry level position but throughout the pay scale."

Incumbent wants to continue progress as Socorro ISD trustee

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Barbara Perez Peña is a three-term veteran of the Socorro ISD board of trustees and is eager for the opportunity to serve the district once again.

"On May 4 (district voters) will have the opportunity to vote for the 'At-Large' trustee positions on the Socorro ISD Board," Peña said. "I am asking the residents of the Socorro ISD to re-elect me to a fourth term. I am very proud to serve as a board member due to the important academic gains that the district has made over the years.

"Although our district's growth rate remains a challenge, (the district) has managed to be fiscally re-

sponsible. The successes of the school district is largely due to hard working students, dedicated parents, committed teachers and administrators at all levels," she said.

Peña said it is very important for all district residents to take part in trustee elections because district activities affect everyone.

"The decisions that board members make should be based on facts and not personal agendas," she said. "For the past nine years, I have voted on several controversial issues and I always vote my conscience. Being a board member is not a popularity contest and it is a very important elected position."

Write stuff

Dear Editor:

As we approach that magical date of May 4 (election day) I wish to express my deep appreciation and gratitude for those who took time four years ago to go to the polls and vote for me for Position #4 on the El Paso County Water Authority (EPCWA).

I have tried to make certain that when those vital issues came up for a vote that I remembered to make doubly sure that the interest of the voter was uppermost in making my decision as how to vote. I shall be ever grateful for the trust you bestowed on me.

But time brings about a change and I have decided not to run for re-election as we will be soon leaving for Turkey on a permanent basis.

May I respectfully request that those of you who voted for me during the last election now please cast your vote for Bruce Truesdale Sr., one who has given freely of his time and service to Horizon City, in a number of positions, and will, if elected, be a valuable asset to the EPCWA.

I also wish to take this opportunity to express our deep thanks to the many friends we have made here and wish each of you God's richest blessings in the future. If your travels include the Black Sea area, then do give us a call and come see us.

Jim and Mehtap Taylor
Horizon City

Vet

From Page 6

that eligible veterans will be able to participate in VLB loan programs within a year of moving to Texas, as opposed to the previous two-year residency requirement. Dewhurst said the change will go into effect after a 60-day "rule-making" process.

He added that the VLB already had a one-year residency requirement for admission to the Texas State Veterans Homes, and lowering the residency requirement for VLB loan participation provides more consistency among the various programs.

"If a veteran has lived here a year, then he or she is a Texan as far as most state laws are concerned," Dewhurst said. "Once we were sure a shorter residency requirement wouldn't adversely affect our programs, I saw no reason to make a newcomer wait two years to participate in VLB home and land loan programs. The more participation we have from our veterans, the stronger these programs become."

Dewhurst said additional information on VLB loans for homes, land and home improvements, as well as Texas State Veterans Homes for veterans and their spouses who need long-term, skilled nursing home care, is available on the VLB Web site at www.glo.state.tx.us/vlb, or by calling (800) 252-VETS.

Public Notice

LOWER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

To the Duly qualified Resident Electors of the Lower Valley Water District and to all other interested parties:

A los Electores autorizados y residentes de el Lower Valley Water District:

The Board of Directors of the Lower Valley Water District hereby gives notice of an election to be held on May 4, 2002, for the purpose of electing three (3) Director Positions for the Lower Valley Water District board.

La Mesa Directiva de el Lower Valley Water District da aviso que se llevara acabo una eleccion el dia 4 de Mayo de 2002 con el proposito de elejir tres (3) miembros de la Mesa Directiva de el Lower Valley Water District.

EARLY VOTING by personal appearance will be conducted at the Socorro High School, 10150 Alameda Avenue, El Paso County, Socorro, Texas 79927 starting Wednesday, April 17, 2002 and continue through Tuesday, April 30, 2002 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on each day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday.

VOTACION POR AUSENCIA por presencia personal sera conducida en la Socorro High School, 10150 Alameda Avenue, El Paso County, Socorro, Texas 79927 empezando el Miercoles, 17 de Abril 2002 y continuara hasta el Martes, 30 de Abril 2002 de las 8 a.m. a las 5 p.m. en todos los dias que no sean sabado, domingo o dia oficial de vacaciones estatales.

Applications for absentee ballots by mail should be mailed to: Department of Elections, 500 East San Antonio, Room 402, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Solicitudes para una boleta de ausencia por correo deben ser enviadas a: Department of Elections, 500 East San Antonio, Room 402, El Paso, Texas 79901.

The POLLING PLACES designated below will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the day of election.

Los SITIOS DE VOTACION indicados abajo se abriran de 7 a.m. a 7 p.m. el dia de la eleccion.

- Precinct Number (Numero de Precinto), Location (Colocacion):
 Precinct 147-Horizon Heights School, 13601 Ryderwood Drive
 Precinct 148-Sparks Community Center, 12899 Sparks Rd.
 Precinct 149, 152-H.D. Hilley Elementary, 693 Rio Vista Rd.
 Precinct 150-Robert R. Rojas Elementary, 500 Bauman Rd.
 Precinct 151-Socorro High School, 10150 Alameda Avenue
 Precinct 153-Escontrias Elementary, 205 Buford Rd.
 Precinct 154-Campestre Elementary, 11399 Socorro Rd.
 Precinct 157-Desert Hill Elementary, 300 East Lake Rd.
 Precinct 158, 163-Clint Jr. High School, 13100 Alameda Ave.
 Precinct 159-San Elizario Middle School, 12280 Socorro Rd.
 Precinct 160, 169-Rio Valle Woman's Club, 521 Mike Maros Dr.
 Precinct 161-Tornillo Ancillary Bldg., 19200 Cobb Street

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Town of Anthony, Texas

Texas Community Development Program 2002 Texas Capital Fund Project

The Town of Anthony, Texas, will hold a public hearing concerning the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for grant funding from the Texas Capital Fund (TCF) of the Texas Community Development Program (TCDP). The purpose of this hearing is to discuss: (1) the development of housing and community development needs, (2) the amount of funding available, (3) all eligible activities under TCDP, (4) the town's use of past TCDP funds, (5) the estimated amount of funds proposed for activities to benefit persons of Low and Moderate Income, and (6) the plans of the locality to minimize the displacement of persons and provide assistance to persons who may be displaced. Residents who are of Low and Moderate Income are encouraged to submit their views and proposals regarding community development and housing needs. The Town of Anthony encourages its residents to participate in the development of the application and to make their views known at this public hearing; those unable to attend this meeting may submit their views and proposals to the Mayor at the Anthony Town Hall. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact the municipal offices at least two days before the hearing, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Date and Time: Tuesday, April 23, 2002, at 6 p.m.
Location: Anthony Town Hall

A notice will be published in the newspaper at a later date, and no later than five (5) days before the submission of the applications, describing the proposed TCF project, locations of proposed improvements, costs, and benefits to residents of Low and Moderate Income. At that time, a copy of the application will be available for review at the Anthony Town Hall during regular business hours.

La ciudad de Anthony va a tener una audiencia para discutir una solicitud de asistencia para un proyecto de desarrollo de infraestructura financiado por el fondo Texas Capital Fund. El público en general está invitado a asistir a esta audiencia sobre el programa de Desarrollo de la Comunidad del Estado de Texas y participar en las discusiones sobre los diferentes fondos y proyectos que son elegibles en este programa. La presentación y las discusiones sobre este programa se haran en español para aquellas persons que asi lo deseen.

Fecha y hora: Martes, el 23 de abril, 2002, a las 6 p.m.
Lugar: Anthony Town Hall

Art Franco, Mayor **Date Published:**
Town of Anthony, Texas **4/18/2002**

Briefs

From Page 1

assistance to communities and rural citizens.

■ Two Socorro ISD libraries are fulfilling the spirit of National Library Week, April 15-20, by continuing to serve the public as well as their students. Socorro High School and Americas High School Libraries are open to area residents six days a week, including half-days on Saturday, ac-

ording to District Library Officer Sue Thompson. "We're open 226 days each year, and during intersessions, our hours change to 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays." For further information on hours, resources and internet services call SHS Library at 860-6540 or AHS Library at 856-4360.

■ Americas High School Trailblazer Concert and Symphonic Bands earned "First Overall" rating during the All-American Music Festival in Orlando, Florida on April 13. The bands, some 117-student strong, are directed by Henry Vega,

John Bailey and Bob Arterbury.

■ The Tornillo ISD wishes to inform the voting residents that the election notice in last week's *Courier* contained the old precinct number, which is not correct. The new number is Pct. 161 and is shown correctly in the notice in this week's publication.

■ Several Socorro High School students athletes have been honored for their academic achievements. All-Academic Honors have been given to Rene Tapia, Reuben Urias, Luis Tellez and

Jesse Estrada in boys basketball; Irene Grunden and Claudia Gomez in girls basketball; Gus Guzman and Jenny Logan in swimming; Adrian Hernandez, Mario Diaz, Mario Yanez, Ben Borunda, James Hernandez and Rosa Rueda in wrestling; and Alina Avila, Jessica Aleman, Nora Padilla, Manny Parra in cheerleading.

■ Over 80 percent of women in the U.S. over 70 have low bone mass or osteoporosis. A free, painless bone density screening is being offered one day only, Saturday, April 20 at Village Oaks Senior

Living Services, 7949 Sunmount Drive in El Paso from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. A free seminar, designed for seniors and their caregivers, will be given by Dr. Irene Chuichini from 2-3 p.m. concerning the facts about osteoporosis. For more information and advance seating call 772-4036.

■ In its second El Paso appearance, the Santa Fe Opera will present a program designed to highlight different operatic styles representing many opera favorites on Saturday, May 4 at 8 p.m. in the theatre at Chamizal National Memorial, El Paso's National Park, as part of the opera's 2002 Apprentice Artist Tour. For additional information, call 532-7273.

■ The El Paso Rose Society will host the Year of the Rose 2002 Show on Sunday, April 21 at Bassett Shopping Center in front of the Target store. The show is free to the public and all are invited to enter roses for judging. Entries will be accepted 8-10 a.m. and judging is at 10:15 a.m. The exhibit will conclude with an awards ceremony at 5:30 p.m. Call for arrangements and information at 751-3631.

■ The next meeting of SHHH! (Self-Help for Hard of Hearing) will be Saturday, April 20 at 10 a.m. at the Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, 511 Executive Center Blvd. Dr. Brian Reynolds, audiologist and Audie Werner, speech language pathologist, both of UTEP, will discuss Cochlear implants. The meeting is free and open to the public, and more information is at 544-6032.

Anthony Independent School District NOTICE OF ELECTION AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL

To the Registered Voters of Anthony, Texas

Notice is hereby given that the polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 4, 2002, for voting in a General Election, to elect 2 (two) School Board Members at Large for 3 year terms.

Positions presently held by Sally Flores and Daniel P. Levario

A los votantes registrados de Anthony, Texas

Notifiquese por la presente, que la casilla electoral citada abajo se abrirá desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 4 de mayo de 2002, para votar en la Elección para 2 (dos) Miembros de la Mesa Directiva de las Escuelas en representación de todo el distrito con un plazo de tres años).

Puestos ocupados por Sally Flores y Daniel P. Levario

LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE:

The polling place for Election Day will be the Anthony Town Hall, 401 Oak Street, Anthony, Texas

DIRECCION DE LA CASILLA ELECTORAL:

El Lugar de votación el día de Elecciones será la Presidencia Municipal de Anthony, 401 Calle Oak, Anthony, Texas

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at Anthony Town Hall, 401 Oak Street, Anthony, Texas, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. beginning on April 17, 2002, and ending on April 30, 2002.

La votacion temprana en persona se llevara a cabo de lunes a viernes en la Presidencia Municipal de Anthony, 401 Calle Oak, Anthony, Texas, entre las 8:30 de la mañana y las 4:30 de la tarde, empezando el 17 de abril de 2002 y terminando el 30 de abril de 2002.

Applications for ballot by mail should be mailed to:
Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán en ausencia por correo, deberán enviarse a:

Helen Jamison
500 E. San Antonio, Room 402
El Paso, TX 79901

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 26, 2002.

Las solicitudes para boletas que se votaran en ausencia por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio del 26 de abril 2002.

Issued this the 19th day of February, 2002

Emitida este día 19 de febrero, 2002

Sally Flores
Signature of Presiding Officer
Firma del Oficial que Preside

WTCC: 04/18/02

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TORNILLO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF ELECTION

On January 14, 2002, at their regular meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Tornillo ISD ordered an election to be held on Saturday, May 4, 2002, between the hours of 7 A.M. and 7 P.M. at the Elementary School Meeting Room, 19200 Gaby Street, Tornillo, Texas, for the purpose of electing two (2) trustees. One for Place 3, and one for Place 4. All places are for full, three year terms.

Absentee voting by personal appearance will be conducted at the W.E. Neil Bldg., 19210 Cobb Street, Tornillo, Texas, beginning April 17, 2002 through April 30, 2002 each weekday from 8:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M., and 12:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to the Presiding Judge, Cecy Lettunich, c/o P.O. Box 170, Tornillo, Texas 79853. Applications for ballots by mail may be received beginning March 5, 2002 and must be received no later than 4:00 P.M. on April 26, 2002. Ballots by mail will be mailed by the presiding judge beginning March 20, 2002 and must be received by the presiding judge by 9:00 A.M. on May 3, 2002.

Only duly qualified, registered voters of the Tornillo Independent School District and Precinct 161 shall be permitted to vote at such election.

DISTRITO DE LA ESCUELA DE TORNILLO AVISO DE ELECCION

El día 14 de enero, 2002, en la junta de la mesa directiva del distrito de la escuela de Tornillo dio aviso que se llevara a cabo una eleccion de regentes para la mesa directiva el sabado, 4 de mayo, 2002, de 7:00 A.M. a 7:00 P.M. en la escuela primaria, en el salon de juntas, 19200 Gaby Street, Tornillo, Texas con el proposito de elegir dos (2) directores. Uno para puesto 3, y uno para puesto 4. Todos los puestos son de un termino de tres años completos.

Votacion de ausencia en persona empieza el 17 de abril hasta el 30 de abril, 2002 de las 8:30 A.M. a las 11:30 A.M. y 12:30 P.M. a las 4:00 P.M. en el edificio de W.E. Neil, 19210 Cobb Street, Tornillo, Texas. Boletos para votar en ausencia por correo se pueden conseguir con el juez que preside, ser enviadas a Cecy Lettunich, c/o P.O. Box 170, Tornillo, Texas 79853. Aplicaciones para boletos por correo deberan recibirse comenzando el 5 de marzo 2002 y recibirse para el fin de 26 de abril, 2002 antes de las 4:00 P.M. Boletos por correo se comenzaran enviar por el juez que preside, comenzando el 20 de marzo, 2002 y recibirse antes de las 9:00 A.M. el día 3 de mayo, 2002.

Unicamente votantes registrados del distrito de la escuela de Tornillo y Precinct 161 se permiten votar en esta eleccion.

WTCC: 4/18/02

Reyes

From Page 2

foreclosure actions. I contacted the White House many times and they have not become involved. The President should do everything in his power to stop adverse action against Hispanic farmers until the GAO audit is completed and the pending class action lawsuit is settled. During an almost identical case between black farmers and the USDA, it was the direct action of President Clinton that led to equitable resolution. In addition to the lawsuit by Hispanic farmers, there are other lawsuits in various stages being brought forth by women, Asian farmers, and American Indians.

Finally, later this spring, I will be participating in hearings that will bring light to the issues of discrimination and civil rights violations by the USDA against Hispanic farmers. I have asked the GAO to provide their preliminary findings to the House Agriculture Committee as part of the hearing agenda.

The pending lawsuit between Hispanic farmers and the USDA is growing in strength and numbers and now has over 200 plaintiffs with another 300 ready to join. As was once said by Cesar Chavez, an advocate of farm workers, "When you have people together who believe in something very strongly — whether it's religion or politics or unions — things happen." I think things are beginning to happen. Hispanic farmers are losing their homes, their livelihood, their land, their history, and their dignity. I am hopeful that the GAO audit and the hearings this spring will lend valuable insight into this situation and may help to spur the President and the Administration to finally become engaged in this critically important issue.



SPANISH SPELLING — Top spellers to represent Davenport Elementary School in Canutillo ISD's District Spanish Spelling Bee are shown front row, from left, Crystal Grado, Adriana Enriquez, Sally Esparza, and Tracy Rivera; back row, from left, Lilia (Teddy) Martinez, District coordinator, and Evangelina Martinez, Davenport ES teacher.

Canutillo ISD Spanish Spelling Bee to be May 4

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Elementary school students in the Canutillo Independent School District will vie for the title of District champion during the Second Annual District Spanish Spelling Bee, which is scheduled for 9 a.m., Saturday, May 4, at Canutillo Elementary School, 651 Canutillo Avenue.

The District Spelling Bee will bring together the top four winners of the Spanish spelling bees held at each of the four CISD elementary school campuses. The contest was open to fourth through sixth grade students.

Canutillo Elementary School winners are: Jaime Maturino, Margarita Ramirez, Jose Luis Coronel, and Maria Flores.

Childress Elementary School winners are: Cynthia Estrada, Sonia Alvarez, Yvonne Alvarado, fifth grader, and Julieta Perez.

Davenport Elementary School winners are: Crystal Grado, Adriana Enriquez, Sally Esparza, Tracy Rivera.

Damian Elementary School will hold its Spanish Spelling bee Tuesday, April 30.

Campus Spanish Spelling Bee coordinators are: Judith Valle, Lorena Salas, Evangelina Martinez, and Margarita Contreras. District coordinator is Lilia (Teddy) Martinez.

"The Spanish Spelling bees are an integral part of the District's efforts to promote the development of biliterate, bilingual individuals," said Martinez.

Socorro ISD administrators go back to school at Principals' Academy

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Socorro's 28 school principals, area executive directors and Superintendent Dr. Don P. Schulte attended the District's Principal Academy April 10 and 11 at the Vista del Sol Conference Center. Presenters for the "Collaborative/Action/Research" staff development program included Anna



19 Education Service Center, who conducted workshops which offered techniques for cooperation and solving problems.

NOTICE OF ELECTION AVISO DE ELECCIONES VILLAGE OF VINTON, TEXAS

TO THE REGISTERED VOTERS OF VINTON, TEXAS
A LOS VOTANTES REGISTRADOS DE VINTON, TEXAS

1. A General Election for the Village of Vinton shall be held on Saturday, May 4, 2002.

La eleccion general del Pueblo de Vinton se llevara acabo el dia sabado 4, de mayo, 2002.

2. The polling place for said election shall be the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Road, El Paso County, Texas.

El sitio de las urnas electorales para dichas elecciones sera el edificio del Pueblo de Vinton, 436 Vinton Road, Condado de El Paso, Texas.

3. The polls will be open between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on May 4, 2002.

Las urnas electorales se abriran dentro las horas de las 7 de la manana y las 7 de la tarde 4 de mayo, 2002.

4. The offices to be voted on May 4, 2002 General Election are Mayor, Aldermanic Place #1 and #2.

Los puestos de oficina para elejirse son los siguientes puestos: Alcalde, Regidores para los lugares #1 y #2.

5. Early voting will begin on April 17, 2002.

Votacion por absentia empezara el dia 17, de abril, 2002.

6. Early voting will be conducted on April 17, 2002 through April 19, 2002, April 22 through April 26, 2002, April 29, 2002 and April 30, 2002, between the hours of 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. each day.

Votacion por absentia se llevara acabo el 17, hasta el 29, de abril 2002, y del 22, hasta el 26, de abril 2002, y el 29 y 30 de abril 2002, dentro las horas de 3 p.m. a 6 p.m. en los dias aqui nombrados.

7. The main absentee polling place will be the Vinton Village Hall, 436 E. Vinton Road, El Paso County, Texas.

El sitio principal donde se llevaran acabo las votaciones por absentia sera el edificio del Pueblo de Vinton, 436 E. Vinton Road, El Condado de El Paso, Texas.

Signed this 15th day of March, 2002

Firmado este 15 dia de marzo, 2002

Samuel Monrreal, Mayor
Village of Vinton, Texas

WTCC: 04/18/02

PUBLIC NOTICE El Paso County Water Authority

TO THE DULY QUALIFIED RESIDENT ELECTORS OF EL PASO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY AND TO ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

A LOS ELECTORES AUTORIZADOS Y RESIDENTES DEL EL PASO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY:

TAKE NOTICE that an election will be held in and for El Paso County Water Authority between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on May 4, 2002, at Precincts 166 and 147, Horizon Heights Elementary School, 13601 Ryderwood, Horizon City, Texas; Precincts 167, 168 and 157, Desert Hills Elementary School, 300 Eastlake Drive, Horizon City, Texas; and Precinct 148, Sparks, Community Center, 12899 Sparks Drive, El Paso, Texas, for the purpose of electing three (3) directors. One candidate will be elected for each of the following positions: Position 3; Position 4; Position 5.

QUE TOMA AVISO que tendra lugar una eleccion dentro de y para El Paso County Water Authority entre 7:00 de la mañana y 7:00 p.m. de la tarde en el 4 de mayo, 2002, en el Precincts Precincts 166 and 147, Horizon Heights Elementary School, 13601 Ryderwood, Horizon City, Texas; Precincts 167, 168 and 157, Desert Hills Elementary School, 300 Eastlake Drive, Horizon City, Texas; and Precinct 148, Sparks, Community Center, 12899 Sparks Drive, El Paso, Texas, con el proposito de elegir tres (3) directores. Un candidato va ser eleccionado para cada una del posiciones: posicion 3, posicion 4, posicion 5.

EARLY VOTING by personal appearance will be conducted at the Oz Glaze Senior Citizen Center, 13969 Veny Web, Horizon City, El Paso County, Texas, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on each day except Saturdays, Sundays and official holidays beginning the 17th and continuing through the fourth day preceding the date of such election. Ballots shall be received by mail, addressed to Helen Jamison, County of EL Paso Elections Department, 500 East San Antonio #402, El Paso, Texas 79902 on the date of such election.

LA VOTACION ABSENTISTA por presencia personal sera conducida en Oz Glaze Senior Citizen Center, 13969 Veny Web, Horizon City, El Paso County, Texas, entre 8:00 de la mañana y 5:00 p.m. de la tarde todos los dias menos los sabados, domingos y las vacaciones oficiales del Estado, empezando con el dia 17 hasta de dia 4 antes de la fecha de la Eleccion. Se recibiran los votos absentistas por correo enviados a Helen Jaminson, County of El Paso Elections Department, 500 East San Antonio #402, El Paso, Texas 79902, en el fecha de la Eleccion.

Kenneth W. Osmond, President, Board of Directors
James C. Taylor, Secretary, Board of Directors

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Excuse me, you're standing on my Bill Walton

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

The Portland Trailblazers are well known for being one of the NBA's most talented teams, but unfortunately they're also known as one of the NBA's dumbest.

The Blazers always seem to lose their heads at the most inopportune times. Usually the main culprit is Rasheed Wallace but last Sunday against the Lakers there were two to blame.

Scottie Pippen went totally John McEnroe during the game and threw a basketball high into the stands after a ref's call he didn't agree with. Soon after, Pippen walked by the same zebra and said the magic word, earning him two technicals and an ejection.

But a new member of the Blazers turned nasty soon after Pippen was tossed from Sunday's game...the Blazers' fans.

In a move that would have made the infa-

mous Philadelphia and New York fans proud, the usually excitable but polite Portland crowd, fed up with what they thought was lousy officiating, began tossing Bill Walton dolls on the court.

Yes, I did say Bill Walton dolls.

The replicas of the big redhead were passed out to fans before the game as a commemoration of his and the Blazers 1977 NBA championship.

But after the fans got incensed at the referees, dozens of the Walton dolls began raining down on the Blazers' court forcing the refs to call time out.

Things calmed down after the time out but I can't help but wonder what Bill Walton, who was working the game for NBC at the time, was feeling as he saw his mini-me's crashing to the floor?

Maybe he can look at it as taking one for the team. After all, the Blazers did get fired up enough to take a 128-120 double-overtime vic-

tory over the hated Lakers.

I wonder why they didn't hand out any Marv Albert dolls?

A tale of two teams

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times," is how Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities* begins.

Who knew Dickens was writing about baseball?

O.K., so he was actually writing about the French revolution, but he might as well have been writing about baseball.

The "best" as of last weekend were the Cleveland Indians who had won 10 straight en route to an 11-1 start while the "worst" were the Detroit Tigers, who had lost 11 straight to start the season.

What a contrast.

The surprising Indians lost Roberto Alomar and Juan Gonzalez last year and instead of falling on their faces, they've turned into the best

team in the majors early on. The Tigers, on the other hand, are so bad they lost their manager and general manager just six games into the season.

Maybe they should change their name to the Detroit Kittens, or the Detroit Felines.

I don't know how the rest of the season will go but at least for now the Indians are the surprise of the new season and the Tigers are the embarrassment.

Don't feel too bad, it's hockey playoff time and at least Detroit still has the Red Wings.

Masterful again

They say that golf is the ultimate mind game. That it can turn the most mature gentleman into a raving maniac and the most confident individual into a shell of himself.

Now we can go one better. Tiger Woods is the ultimate mind game.

Talk about psyching out his opponents. Tiger was tied going into the final round of the 2002 Masters golf tournament last Sunday and fired an unspectacular one-under par 71.

Problem is, like they do in almost every tournament now, his closest opponents dropped to the floor and assumed the fetal position for most of the afternoon.

I mean, no golfer stepped up to challenge Woods. Not Ernie Els, not Sergio Garcia, not Vijay Singh, not Phil Mickleson.

A famous philosopher once said that most battles are won before a single shot is fired and it's the same in the PGA right now. Tiger possesses all the shots, all the savvy and all the mental toughness to break all the PGA records.

He's already the greatest golfer the game has ever seen. Now it's just a question of whether he can keep from getting bored.

All the other golfers though are staying focused and interested...hey, they have to...they know there'll be one heck of a battle for second place every week.



Canutillo Middle School Eighth Grade Boys Track Team win District Title. Shown in photo, front row from left, Kathleen Norris, manager, Junior Gonzalez, Daniel De La Cerda, Ernie Viramontes, Jaime Moreno, Wesley Marquez, David Centeno, Martin Ocon, Maribel Noriega, manager. Middle row, from left, Manny Flores, Roman Estrada,

Abel Gonzalez, Oscar Escobedo, Luis Mares, Israel De La Rosa, Richard Gonzalez, Fernie Monarrez, Jimmy Valle. Back row, from left, Coach Robert Herrera, David Ferrel, Loren Ontiveros, Ben Hernandez, Manuel Gonzalez, James Estrada, Tony Terrazas, Saul Monroy, Sammy Castañeda, Weston Berry, Fabian Ramirez, David Carrillo.

Canutillo Middle School track team sprints away with championships

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Canutillo Middle School Eighth Grade Boys Track Team claimed the District 2-4A Middle School Championship and the Lower Valley Conference Champion-

ship recently to complete an amazing undefeated track season.

The eighth grade boys team placed first in each of the seven track meets that it participated in this season. Third year Coach Robert Herrera said that the team had several talented individuals and that they practiced hard every day to improve their skills.

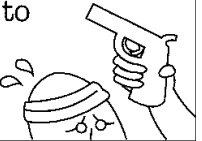
Leading the team were performances by Ben Hernandez, who set a school record in the discus with a throw of 127 feet; Martin Ocon set a school record in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:16:06; and the 4x100 meter relay squad members — Jaime Moreno, David Centeno, Sammy Castañeda, Loren Ontiveros — set a school record with a time of 46:59.

Phamiliar phrases

"jump the gun"

A runner in a race who starts just before the gun is fired is "jumping" the gun. The phrase in common usage expresses anticipating or starting something before its time, perhaps to gain advantage.

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King Super Crossword

- EIRE COLORING**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Patrick of "A Clockwork Orange"
 - 6 Fog
 - 11 Injurious
 - 14 Hoover or Aswan
 - 17 Mrs. Marcos
 - 19 "Dreaming of You" singer
 - 20 Actress MacGraw
 - 21 Significant years
 - 22 Jim Henson creation
 - 24 Unexpected success
 - 26 Chemical ending
 - 27 _ gras
 - 28 When Satie sweltered
 - 30 Street talk
 - 31 Ballyhoo
 - 32 Salad veggie
 - 36 Zoo attraction
 - 37 " _ Don't Preach" (86 hit)
 - 40 Part of Q.E.D.
 - 41 Fancy fabric
 - 43 Clint Eastwood movie
 - 49 AAA handout
 - 52 Sault _ Marie, MI
 - 53 To boot
 - 54 " _ Angel" (33 film)
 - 55 Lurid Lugosi
 - 56 Gumshoe
 - 57 Strained
 - 58 Hogan's home
 - 61 Asian capital
 - 62 Orner Olympian
 - 64 Gangster's gun
 - 65 "Rama _ Ding Dong" ('61 tune)
 - 66 "Emma" author
 - 67 Self-possessed
 - 72 Hutton or Tewes
 - 75 Patriot James
 - 76 Chum
 - 77 Length x width
 - 81 "Lou Grant" star
 - 82 PC key
 - 84 Constellation component
 - 86 East ender?
 - 87 Catty remark?
 - 88 "Jumbo" set
 - 89 Beige
 - 90 Crone
 - 91 Candy quantity
 - 92 Hugh Masekela hit
 - 98 Speculation
 - 100 Soccer great
 - 101 Help a hood
 - 102 Lustrous
 - 103 Ornamental shrub
 - 105 Sleep in the woods
 - 108 Roused
 - 109 Charge
 - 110 Fountain order
 - 111 Medical grp.
 - 114 United
 - 116 John D. MacDonald book or this puzzle's theme
 - 122 Bother
 - 123 Presidential nick-
 - name
 - 124 Singer Percy
 - 125 Mouse or moose
 - 126 King's handle
 - 127 Crow's comment
 - 128 It may be eaten or drunk
 - 129 Utilize
- DOWN**
- 1 Ditka or Douglas
 - 2 So be it
 - 3 Richard of "First Knight"
 - 4 Common street name
 - 5 Uplift
 - 6 Victory sign
 - 7 TV ET
 - 8 By means of
 - 9 Yoko _
 - 10 Blows one's stack
 - 11 Military center
 - 12 Dryden's " _ for Love"
 - 13 Some engines
 - 14 Bureau
 - 15 Fight site
 - 16 Actress Helgenberger
 - 18 Perched on
 - 19 Haggard heroine
 - 23 Bind
 - 25 Czech river
 - 29 Houston or Ritter
 - 31 Contains
 - 32 Auto acronym
 - 33 Pound sound
 - 34 June honoree
 - 35 Japanese statesman
 - 36 Nil
 - 37 It's tossed with sauce
 - 38 Behind
 - 39 Cake helping
 - 42 Chinese principle
 - 44 Make lace
 - 45 Pub vessel
 - 46 Ordinary
 - 47 "Whole _ Love" ('69 song)
 - 48 New Hampshire's state flower
 - 50 _ vera
 - 51 Ache
 - 55 Iraqi city
 - 58 Blackboard
 - 59 Unspoken
 - 60 Cause a chuckle
 - 61 Color
 - 63 It needs to be threaded
 - 66 Loud
 - 68 " _ the ramparts..."
 - 69 Maestro Georg
 - 70 In a stew
 - 71 Fire wood?
 - 72 It becomes ewe?
 - 73 Lost
 - 74 Nonconformist
 - 78 Change for the better
 - 79 Rub out
 - 80 Dread
 - 82 TV's " _ John"
 - 83 Organic catalyst
 - 85 Carpet
 - 88 Football's Aikman
 - 92 Nonproprietary
 - 93 "All Things Considered" network
 - 94 Procure
 - 95 Under the weather
 - 96 Born
 - 97 Chat
 - 99 Walk in the woods
 - 102 Nobel, for one
 - 104 It makes rye high
 - 105 Pigeon English?
 - 106 _ Romeo
 - 107 _ cum laude
 - 108 Way over yonder
 - 109 Soared
 - 110 _ Guevara
 - 111 Rope fiber
 - 112 It should be square
 - 113 Enya's " _ Time"
 - 115 Alias initials
 - 117 Mr. Ziegfeld
 - 118 Where goats gambol
 - 119 Pitches
 - 120 Cpl.'s superior
 - 121 Tear

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No child left behind: Let kids chew gum in school

By Don Flood

In what may be the greatest educational breakthrough since term papers became available online, scientists in England are studying the effects of gum chewing on student achievement.

Now when I was in school, shortly after the Fall of Rome, gum chewing was The Big No-No.

Chewing gum could get you sent down to the Assistant Principal's Office, which was pretty much what Death Row is nowadays, only there was no chance for appeal.

Back then, assistant principals were generally hired on the basis of their expertise in various methods of torture, and parents were disappointed if they didn't receive full value for their tax dollars.

But this new study may bring gum chewing to the forefront of our nation's educational reform!

The test — no doubt conducted by industrious gum-chewing scientists — included 75 subjects divided into three groups.

One group chewed gum, one group didn't and one group chewed *but without using gum!* (Interesting concept!)

Following rigorous testing, the scientists discovered that the gum-

chewing group had "fresh, kissable" breath, and they booked a room at a local motel.

Just kidding! After all, these are Men of Science!

They discovered, and I heard this on TV straight from the head guy, Dr. Andrew Scholey of the University of Northumbria in England, that chewing gum made certain "areas of the brain light up" — sort of like Rudolph's nose.

Anyway, the gum-chewers' well-lit brains helped them remember things — such as not to get involved with crackpot scientific studies.

But now I wonder, with deep regret, how much more could I have accomplished if only I had been allowed to chew gum in school.

I might have aced the SAT. I might have become a famous scientist and conducted gum-chewing research of my own.

I might have made important scientific discoveries such as the color of the universe!

Today's scientists could use some help.

A couple months ago scientists — who most likely were not gum-chewers — announced that the universe was a "pale green" or maybe even a "pale turquoise."

It wasn't the color I would have chosen for my universe, you understand, but I could live with it.

I even started picking out ties that I thought would go well with the cosmos.

(You never know when company — in the form of space aliens — might drop by.)

Now, two months later, scientists have announced that the universe isn't turquoise after all.

It's beige. That's right, beige. As in the color of that smelly old sofa your Aunt Agnes owns.

As in, UGLY.

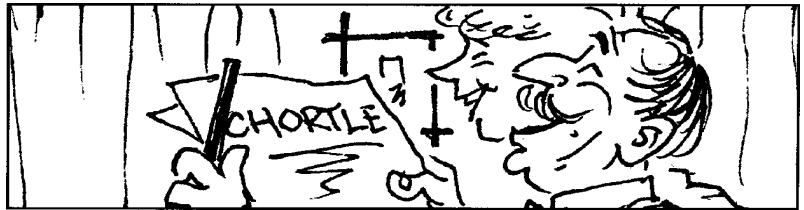
Of course, that's the color this month. Who knows what they'll say next month:

"Today NASA scientists have conclusively proved that the universe is actually a 'vomit green.' For that reason, all planned space probes have been put on hold until scientists decide whether it's really worth exploring something that yucky."

But maybe we can figure out a way to change the color of the universe to something a little more "with it" and up to date.

I'll have a stick of gum and think about it.

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It's believed that the word *chortle* was coined by author Lewis Carroll as a combination of chuckle and snort.

City of Socorro PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDER OF ELECTION FOR CITY OF SOCORRO

An election is hereby ordered to be held on May 4, 2002 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for the purpose of: Electing a Mayor and five Council persons from Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and one at-large for the City of Socorro, Texas.

Early voting in person shall be conducted at Socorro High School, 10150 Alameda Ave., beginning Wednesday, April 17, 2002, and continue through Tuesday, April 30, 2002 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on each day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or an official state holiday.

The early voting ballot applications and ballots by mail may be sent to Helen Jamison, County Elections Department, 500 E. San Antonio, Room 402, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Precincts	Polling Place	Address
149	Hilley Elementary	693 Rio Vista
150 & 152	Rojas Elementary School	500 Bauman Rd.
151	Socorro High School	10150 Alameda
153	Escontrias Elementary School	205 Buford Rd.
154	Campestre Elementary School	11399 Socorro Rd.

Issued this 8th day of February, 2002.

Amado D. Padilla, Mayor
City of Socorro

ORDEN DE ELECCION PARA CIUDAD DE SOCORRO

Por la presente se ordena que se llevara a cabo una eleccion el 4 de Mayo 2002 con el proposito de: Elejir el Alcalde y cinco Regidores de los Distritos 1,2, 3, 4 y un en general para la Ciudad de Socorro, Texas.

Votacion temprana en persona se llevara a cabo en Socorro High School, 10150 Alameda Ave., comenzando el Miercoles, 17 de Abril de 2002, y continuara hasta el Martes, 30 de Abril de 2002 desde las 8 a.m. hasta las 5 p.m. en todos los dias que no sean Sábado, Domingo, o dia oficial de vacaciones estatales.

La direccion postal de la secretaria de votacion de antemano para votar por correo y a donde se puedan enviar solicitudes para balotas y enviar las balotas con votos es: Helen Jamison, County Elections Department, 500 E. San Antonio, Room 402, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Precincto	Lugar de Votacion	Domicilio
149	Hilley Elementary	693 Rio Vista
150 & 152	Rojas Elementary School	500 Bauman Rd.
151	Socorro High School	10150 Alameda
153	Escontrias Elementary School	205 Buford Rd.
154	Campestre Elementary School	11399 Socorro Rd.

Emitada este dia 8 de febrero, 2002.

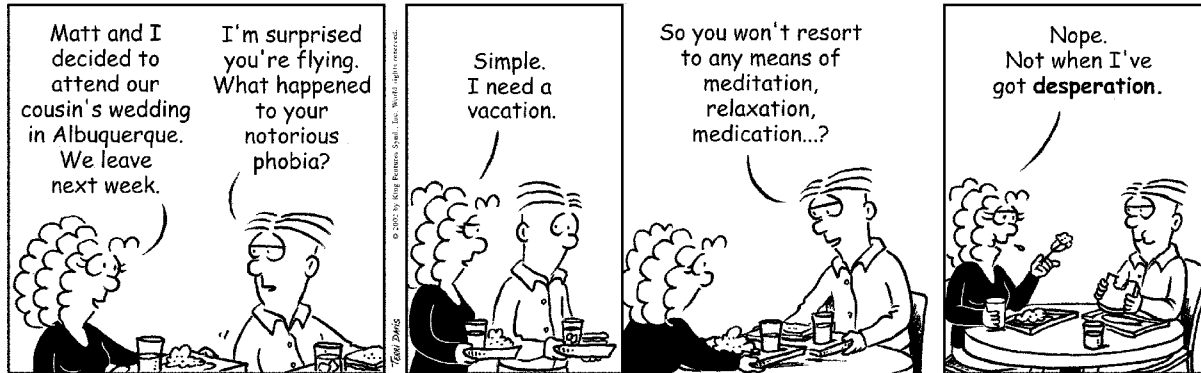
Amado D. Padilla, Alcalde
Ciudad de Socorro

Comix

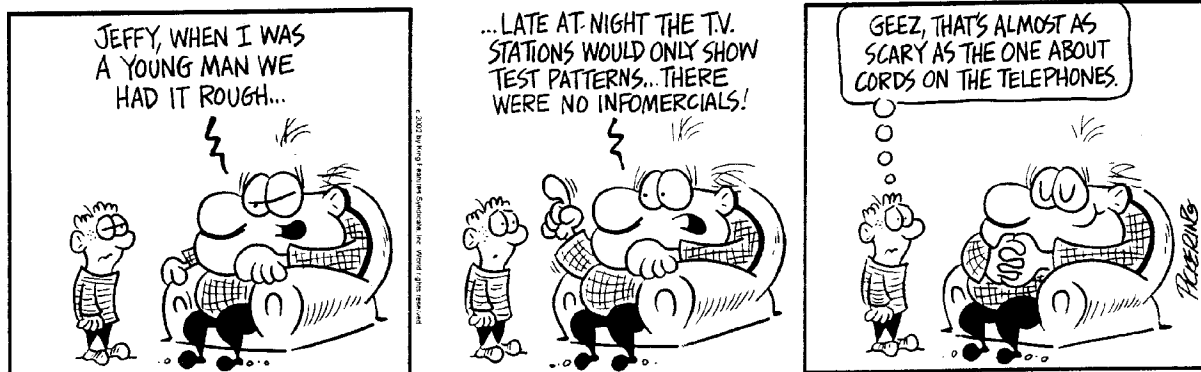
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



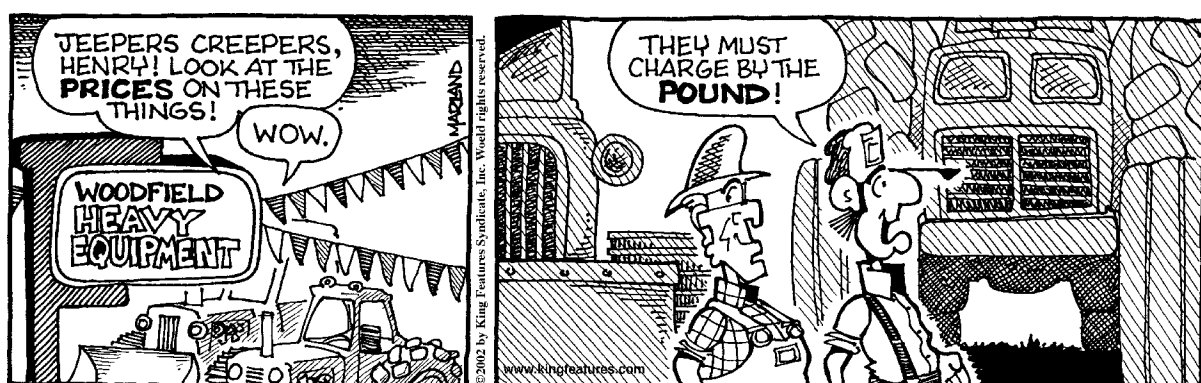
GOT A LIFE By Terri Davis



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



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Social Security: Q & A By Ray Vigil

Working 'under the table' can hurt you and your family

Would you like to take home a paycheck with no deductions? If you're working "under the table," as some people call it, you get a bigger paycheck if your employer doesn't deduct Social Security taxes. Sound good? Before you answer, think about what this means for your future.

First, it's illegal for your employer not to report your earnings to the Internal Revenue Service, and it's illegal for you and your employer not to pay Social Security taxes on your earnings.

Second, while you're not paying Social Security taxes, you're also not earning the work credits that will make you eligible for Social Security benefits in the future. So what, you ask? You're a long way from retirement.

However, Social Security is much more than retirement insurance. There also are disability and survivor benefits. Disability can happen to anyone — at any age — anytime. When you're paying into Social Security, you have a cushion of protection that could provide monthly payments for you and your family if you are unable to work. Few people have long-term private disability insurance. Every worker who pays Social Security taxes has Social Security disability insurance. If you aren't paying your Social Security taxes, then you won't have that disability insurance if you need it.

With Social Security survivor's benefits, you also have the comfort

of knowing your dependents will have financial help when you die. Social Security survivor's benefits paid monthly to the dependents of a worker with an average income could have the same value as a \$400,000 life insurance policy.

Now, about retirement: my advice to workers of any age is that it's never too early to start planning for retirement. Social Security never was intended to be your sole source of retirement income. While you'll need to supplement your retirement income with investments and savings, paying Social Security taxes is the first step in preparing for your retirement.

Although you may think you need

the money more now, you will need it even more if you become disabled or when you retire. And your family will need it even more if you die. That's the reason you need to think twice before you decide to work "under the table."

For more information on how to safeguard your Social Security number, log onto our website, www.ssa.gov, call our toll-free number at 1-800-772-1213 or visit your local Social Security office. 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
Sunny and warm.	Clear skies.	Sunny and warm.	Still warm with bright sunshine.	Sunshine.	Sunny and warm.	Warm with sunshine.	Sunny and warm.
▲ 84°	▼ 56°	▲ 86° ▼ 56°	▲ 82° ▼ 54°	▲ 82° ▼ 52°	▲ 84° ▼ 50°	▲ 84° ▼ 50°	▲ 86° ▼ 50°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	10	Very High
Friday	10	Very High
Saturday	10	Very High
Sunday	10	Very High
Monday	10	Very High
Tuesday	10	Very High
Wednesday	10	Very High

REAL FEEL TEMP™

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

Thursday	89°
Friday	82°
Saturday	79°
Sunday	76°
Monday	80°
Tuesday	76°
Wednesday	77°

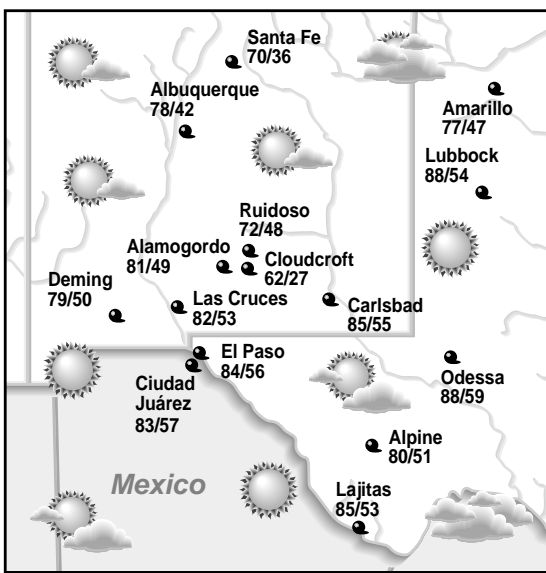
AGRICULTURE

Much of this week will be dry. Sunshine will average 8-12 hours a day with excellent drying conditions. Highs will average in the 80s, and lows at night will average in the lower 50s.

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	84	56
Canutillo	85	57
Clint	82	57
E. Montana	84	56
Fabens	83	57
Horizon	85	57
San Elizario	80	55
Socorro	83	55
Tornillo	83	57
Vinton	85	57

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	78/42/s	74/42/s	70/40/pc	72/42/pc	76/44/s
Atlanta	84/62/pc	82/60/pc	80/58/t	78/58/c	78/60/pc
Atlantic City	84/56/pc	80/54/pc	72/48/c	66/44/s	60/44/c
Austin/San Antonio	84/65/c	83/64/pc	82/63/pc	83/66/c	84/72/pc
Baltimore	86/60/pc	86/58/pc	74/48/c	66/44/s	62/42/c
Boston	78/50/pc	66/48/pc	66/46/c	60/44/s	58/44/pc
Chicago	78/50/c	60/38/c	54/34/pc	60/48/pc	72/40/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	82/68/c	84/64/pc	78/58/pc	78/62/c	78/67/pc
Denver	66/28/pc	36/24/sn	48/32/c	60/36/pc	66/38/s
Flagstaff	58/26/s	57/25/s	52/27/pc	53/25/c	58/23/c
Houston	88/70/c	90/70/pc	88/68/pc	86/68/c	84/60/t
Kansas City	80/54/t	70/42/t	66/46/t	70/42/t	62/36/pc
Las Vegas	74/54/s	76/52/s	72/50/pc	76/55/s	80/44/s
Miami	86/72/pc	86/72/pc	86/72/s	86/74/s	86/72/s
Minneapolis	66/40/sh	56/32/pc	54/36/pc	56/40/r	58/40/pc
New Orleans	85/66/s	84/69/s	82/67/s	84/68/s	84/68/pc
New York City	84/56/pc	76/56/pc	70/48/c	64/46/s	58/44/c
Philadelphia	86/56/pc	84/54/pc	72/48/c	66/44/s	60/44/c
Phoenix	86/60/s	88/60/s	88/60/s	86/60/s	90/62/s
Portland	60/41/pc	66/44/s	66/46/s	62/44/c	60/42/pc
San Francisco	60/48/pc	60/48/pc	62/48/s	64/50/s	64/50/s
Seattle	58/40/pc	62/42/s	64/44/s	60/44/c	58/42/c
Tucson	86/50/s	86/52/s	84/52/s	86/50/s	88/54/s
Washington, DC	86/64/pc	88/58/pc	76/50/c	68/48/s	64/46/c

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

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

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