

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 29, No. 32

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

AUGUST 8, 2002

NEWSBRIEFS

Tax notice time

Courier readers are advised that the next several issues will contain the effective tax rate notices of many taxing entities in both the Eastern portions and the Upper Valley areas of El Paso County, such as school districts, water districts and municipalities. These notices contain information about current and proposed tax rates and public meetings to be held by the various elected boards. Our readers who own property and pay taxes are encouraged to be aware of the notices that concern them. Most regular features of the *Courier* will be included in these issues, however, management apologizes that other news content may be lighter than normal.

Fabens bridge debate

The El Paso County Commissioners Court as a whole is not as concerned about the speed with which the Fabens Bridge Project is progressing as one of its members, County Commissioner Miguel Teran, who wants the commission to send a sharp letter to the Texas Department of Transportation because, he said, they are not moving fast enough to assure the government of Mexico. Teran said that TxDOT isn't moving fast enough on environmental assessment of the project to keep up with "the political situation in Mexico." TxDOT advanced planning administrator Judy Ramsey said the state is moving as fast as it can. The court declined to send the letter and turned down a request by the County Planning Dept. and Teran to approve the project's design and construction plans before they are finished in order to assure Mexico that the project is moving ahead.

In other news

■ A special celebration to welcome Dr. Rodin Mendoza to the Sparks community and the surrounding area will be held on Saturday, Aug. 10 at 10 a.m. at the Sparks Community Center, 12899 Sparks Drive. Dr. Mendoza's pediatric practice will eventually inhabit the Sparks Healthcare Clinic, now a work in progress. The event is sponsored by EPISO. Oscar Solis said acquiring a pediatrician for the area will benefit children not only of Sparks but from other surrounding areas including Horizon, El Paso Hills, and Panorama Village. Information: 778-3200.

■ The Horizon City Municipal Court will be closed Aug. 19-21, and resume regular hours on Aug. 22. The business of the court scheduled during this time will be granted a three-business-day extension. Information: 852-1048.

■ A support group for caregivers of ill persons will meet on Thursday, Aug. 8, at 3 p.m. at the Church of the Incarnation, 15000 Darrington Rd., Horizon City. Open to the public and free of charge, the event also includes care for dependents during the meeting. Information: 859-5689 or 852-4032.

■ Need a quick get-away? The Rio

See BRIEFS, Page 3

Among the few things more expensive than an education these days is the lack of it.

— Quips and Quotes

Schulte's resignation as superintendent of SISD accepted

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — The Socorro School District school year is well underway since its 30,000 or students trooped back to class July 29. However, the top job in the district experienced a vacuum as of last Friday evening.

On a split vote, 4-3, the Socorro ISD trustees voted to accept the resignation of Dr. Don P. Schulte.

Those voting in favor of releasing Schulte were Craig Patton, Alex Vidales, Martha Contreras, and Guillermo Gandara.

Those voting against acceptance of the resignation were Barbara Perez-Peña, Isela Rosales and Brenda Castañeda.

Though the board met subsequently in closed session to consider alternative leadership for the district, no decision was announced other than to take the matter up again during future meetings.

Schulte was not at the meeting and a Socorro district spokesman said he will be on vacation until his resignation becomes effective, Aug. 31.

In a letter faxed to the *Courier* last Tuesday evening, Schulte thanked the Socorro district

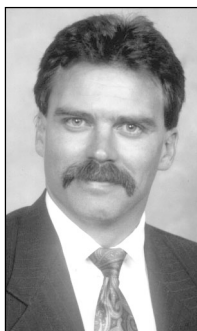
and community for all the opportunities he has enjoyed over the past years.

"I am proud of my years at Socorro," Schulte wrote. "Together we have attained significant achievements. Our outstanding student performance led to three straight years as a Recognized District from 1998 to 2001. Our quality building program has provided beautiful new schools for our children and allowed us this year to offer full day kindergarten for the first time in our history.

"I have seen the district grow from about 3,000 students in the late 70s to a current enrollment of almost 30,000. During my years we were among those districts that fought for equity in public school funding. It was a courageous move for a small property-poor school district, but we succeeded.

"Socorro has been more than just a job to me...it's been my home. My coworkers are like my family."

Schulte has been a part of the Socorro school district for almost 25 years, first as a teacher, then administrator. He was assistant to two of his predecessors, former superintendents Bill Sybert and Jerry Barber, before being ap-



Don Schulte

Historic fiesta in Clint enters 88th year

CLINT — This year marks the 88th Annual Fiesta de San Lorenzo. Since the church was completed in 1914 the parishioners and the Lower Valley community have honored St. Lawrence on his feast day, Aug. 10.

St. Lawrence is a favorite of Catholic St. because he is said to answer more prayers. More than 30,000 pilgrims visit the small town of Clint each year from all over the world for the fiesta. Locals from Clint, San Elizario, Socorro and Fabens consider the Fiesta both family and class reunion time, as many of the family and friends who now live out of town come home for this annual event.

This year's fiesta begins on Aug. 9 at noon with 60 vendor booths. Saturday, Aug. 10, the festivities begin at 3 a.m. with a pilgrimage from San Elizario Mission to San Lorenzo. Buses will carry pilgrims beginning at 2 a.m. from San Lorenzo to San Elizario for the two mile procession led by matachines and pastoral members from the El Paso Catholic Diocese. Mass will follow the procession at daybreak. A second mass is at 11 a.m. followed by a shorter procession and the third mass is at 6

p.m. The matachines dance all day Saturday in honor of San Lorenzo until midnight. Sunday, mass is at 8 a.m. in Spanish, 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. in English.

The Fiesta organizers encourage everyone wishing to walk in pilgrimage to be a part of the organized procession on Saturday morning which will be escorted by local law enforcement and the volunteer fire department. Those walking on their own should use extreme caution and carry an umbrella, water, do not walk alone, and wear light colored clothing or reflective vest so that motorists can see you. Texas 20 (Alameda), North Loop and FM 1110 are rural roads and do not have street lighting and in some areas do not have asphalt or gravel shoulders.

To get to San Lorenzo Church take I-10 east to the Clint exit. Turn south at FM 1110 to North Loop. Turn right on North Loop heading west and a left turn at Fenter Rd. will lead you to the FM 1110 extension. Turn left onto the extension which will lead you to the front of the fiesta plaza. From the Lower Valley take Texas Highway 20 (Alameda) east to Clint. Turn left at Clint Rd. and over the railroad tracks.

Canutillo High School gets new principal in personnel shift

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

CANUTILLO — Renee Rios-O'Donnell says her professional life no longer revolves around a class bell schedule.

School life for Rios-O'Donnell, former principal of Canutillo High, is no longer the educational microcosm, as she put it, reflecting the larger picture of the Canutillo Independent School District. As the new executive director of human resources for Canutillo ISD, that microcosm is now a wide-angle lens with which she sees new issues as well as many of the same ones she dealt with as principal.

An educator with 25 years experience, she replaces Gwen Keefer who retired in June. The reassignment of Rios-O'Donnell from high school campus to central administration building was one of seven recent personnel shifts in Canutillo ISD necessitated by retirements and reorganization.

Dr. John Kessinger, assistant superintendent, describes the changes as "fine-tuning" the school district's operations and making it more efficient with a "better match" of personnel with their job.

"I miss the high school very much; I miss being around the students," says Rios-O'Donnell who was its principal for four years. She says that stepping out into the hallways filled with students gave her a good feeling — a new feeling that was "rejuvenating, uplifting and motivational" in nature.

The programs and duties of one position have been restructured into two in the central office. The position of special programs director, previously held by Dr. Pam Padilla, has been separated into curriculum/evaluation director and student/community services director.

Padilla was named assistant superintendent for student performance in February,

See CANUTILLO, Page 7

pointed himself in early 1997.

Sybert, known for his colorful descriptive style, once said of Schulte: "I was superintendent in Socorro for six years. During most of

See SCHULTE, Page 3

Socorro mayor appoints new interim chief of police

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — The City of Socorro Police Dept. has been functioning with instability for the past year. It has been less than a year since their Chief of Police resigned in October of 2001. Following his resignation, City Council appointed Sgt. Manuel Ponce as the Interim Chief of Police.

Most recently, during a regular work day, Socorro Mayor Irma Sanchez released Interim Chief of Police

Ponce of his duties as Chief of Police, subsequently appointing Officer Irma Molina as the new Interim Chief of Police.

Several community members came forward during open forum of the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on Aug. 1, 2002, to express their concern over the Mayor's recent appointment.

It is their opinion that other police officers are more experienced and are higher ranking than Molina should have been considered for the position. Mayor Sanchez did not respond to the community members' concerns and instead proceeded with the remainder of the meeting.

In another issue that has stirred controversy in the Socorro community, Council dealt with the appointment of a new City Judge. The issue has been placed on the agenda of the previous two Council meetings but was tabled to allow councilmen the opportunity to further research all applicants.

The City Charter calls for the position to be held by a qualified applicant and also a resident of the City of Socorro, Texas. These restrictions have caused some of the applicants to be disqualified as viable candidates.

During the Aug. 1 meeting Mayor Sanchez recommended that Eduardo Flores be the new City Judge and Council approved the Mayor's recommendation. Flores holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and is also a resident of Socorro. Flores will work part-time as the City Judge and will also receive half the salary due to the position now being a part-time position.

In other business, a public hearing was held on an ordinance amending the budget for FY Oct. 1, 2001 to Sept. 30, 2002. There was very little input regarding the waiver of building permits for the Socorro Independent School District either for and against. Mayor Sanchez then closed the hearing and Council approved the ordinance.

Mayor Sanchez also told Council she would like to either amend the current travel policy for the City of Socorro employees and Council members or completely rewrite the policy. Some concerns regarding per diem reimbursements is what brought her to the decision to study the policy and possibly amend it or rewrite it. City Council tabled the agenda item in order to investigate the Mayor's concern.



Irma Sanchez



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Schulte latest victim of insidious, pesky, incurable virus

Such style and grace. Reminds me of the proverb about using kindness to heap coals of fire on the heads of your enemies.

Don Schulte can afford to. After all, the Socorro school district needs him a lot more than he needs it. Too bad the new school board majority doesn't recognize that.

Dr. Schulte resigned one other time, in March of 1998, when a similar political situation fomented until he was not allowed to do his job. In a similarly gracious letter, he wished the board well, and quietly accepted a supervisory position with Region 19.

By June of that year, the people had spoken and the primary discordant force — Hector Enriquez — has been given his walking papers. A new board majority promptly tossed out a requirement that the superintendent must hold a doctorate and invited him back with open arms. Schulte, with equal promptness, completed his doctorate.

There are two common factors in Schulte's resignations. Trustees Craig Patton and Alex Vidales.

Patton was known to be allied with Enriquez at the time of Schulte's first resignation. Like any good politician, Patton could see that with Enriquez no longer leading the charge, the ship was sinking. He leapt with considerable deftness onto the life raft of offering the elusive superintendent his old job back. Vidales stuck to his guns, voting no.

When his term was up, Patton did not run again.

Fast-forward a few years.

Re-elected to the board in May of this year, Patton was handed the plum position of board president, a soap box from which he resumed his pattern of "questioning" and "investigating" — politically correct terms that are interchangeable with "interfer-

ing" and "meddling." These are terms often paraded by politicians to show how involved and incisive they will be when elected to positions of power.

The problem with this, however, is that these grandiose "questionings" are seldom followed up with positive alternatives or decisive action.

For example, Patton's dissatisfaction with the Montwood Wellness Clinic contract with Texas Tech has been well-publicized in the El Paso media since his new board presidency was in its infancy. Even so, as late as last week, Patton said he still did not have enough information to make a recommendation.

Excuse me?

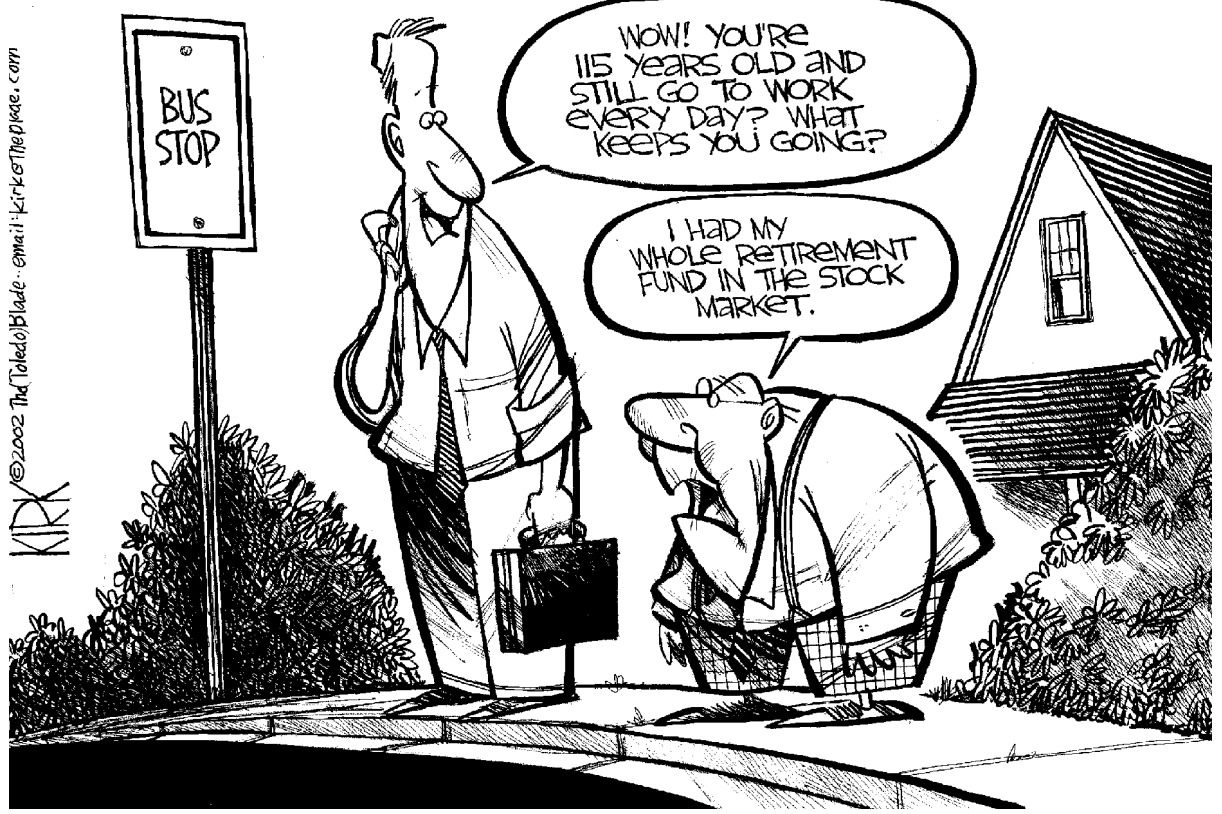
As an attorney, you'd think he would be able to find out what he needs to know in a matter of weeks, not months, especially since he made it such a media issue. I keep waiting for that decisive action, that positive alternative — anything to back up the smoke and mirrors.

Heaven forbid that he should have taken the matter quietly to Schulte and Tech officials for resolution.

I have no personal idea why Schulte decided to resign. Based on his references to "home" and "family" when he mentions the Socorro district and staff in his resignation, I don't believe he really wanted to. It is being rumored in the media — which can't seem to let well enough alone, either — whether or not family issues are to blame.

Perhaps so. But it makes little difference. The insidious, pesky, incurable virus of political ambition has once again infected the Socorro school board and the fruits of that disease are well known throughout El Paso County.

I don't believe the recent push to have Socorro ISD board meetings



televised is based on a genuine concern for the public's right to know.

It is always amazing to me that the unpaid, supposedly altruistic

position of school board trustee can become such a springboard for political posturing.

Schulte has publicly mentioned he desires to eventually teach education at the college level — certainly a college professor isn't subject to the whims and political aspirations of small-time politics.

With all he has to offer, Schulte will be of extraordinary value to any academic unit he joins. I just hate to see the Socorro school board allow him to pull up a rocking chair beside all the other good guys on the porch.

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SERVING ANTHONY, VINTON, CANUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLINT, FABIENS, SAN ELIZABAR AND TORNILLO

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

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Letter must not be more than 250 words in length. They should be dated, must be signed and have an address and daytime phone number. Only the name and city will be printed with the letter. The *Courier* reserves the right not to print letters to the editor or other submitted materials it considers inappropriate.

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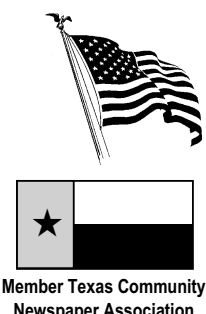
ADDRESS:
13899 Horizon Blvd., Ste. 2
Horizon City, TX 79928

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

Publisher
Rick Shrum
Business Manager
Francis D. Shrum

Contributors
Marjorie F. Graham
Don Woodyard
Steve Escajeda
Arleen Beard

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Schulte

From Page 1

that time, Schulte was my assistant. He was a hell of a lot more capable than I was."

Considering that Schulte had supervised every district function from finance, food service, transportation and construction, the 1997 board decided to waive the requirement that the superintendent must have completed a doctorate — Schulte was in a doctorate program at the time which he has since successfully completed.

The '97 board was also aware that Schulte had been the Socorro ISD representative on the Texas State Board of Education and before the Texas Legislature for four years, and played a key leadership role in bringing about historic changes to make state funding of schools more equitable for poor districts.

Known for giving credit where credit is due, Schulte's superintendency has emphasized the term "we" based on his stated philosophy that academic progress rests on the collective power of unified teachers, students and faculty.

In conclusion to his resignation, Schulte said he believed the commitment to excellence he sought to foster would continue.

"Change is never easy, but I feel good about what we've accomplished here and I know that commitment to excellence will continue. I truly appreciate all the school boards I have served with and I wish the current board the best of luck in the future."

Briefs

From Page 1

Grande Council of Governments may offer a little guidance, thanks to a new brochure entitled "Explore the Rio," now in its fifth years of publication, with detailed information about 25 interesting destinations in Far West Texas, Southern New Mexico and Northern Mexico as well as a calendar of events of festivals, symposiums and concerts. Included this year, thanks to the efforts of El Paso Mission Trails Director May Davis, the Mission Trail is also included. For more information call 533-0998 or 837-8247.

■ The American Cancer Society 2002 Golf Classic will tee off in a four-man scramble on Wednesday, Aug. 14 at 1 p.m. at the Painted Dunes Desert Golf Course, 12000 McCombs in El Paso. \$100 per person includes green fee, cart, dinner, awards and prizes. Register by Aug. 13 at 544-4425. Proceeds benefit the El Paso Metro Unit of the ACS.

■ Information on scholarships for all types of students and from a variety of over 900 sources can be obtained from the U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance, P.O. Box 668, O'Fallon, Illinois 62269. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope.

One of the tests of leadership is the ability to recognize a problem before it becomes an emergency.

— Arnold Glasow

NOTICE OF EFFECTIVE TAX RATE

2002 Property Tax Rates in the City of Socorro

This notice concerns 2002 property tax rates for the **City of Socorro**. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$1,374,748
Last year's debt taxes	256,576
Last year's total taxes	1,631,324
Last year's tax base	387,788,169
Last year's total tax rate	.420674/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$1,630,053
+This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	405,047,890
=This year's effective tax rate	.402434/\$100
x1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings	.414507/\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function, tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$1,373,677
+This year's adjusted tax base	405,047,890
=This year's effective operating rate	.339139/\$100
x1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	.366270/\$100
+This year's debt rate	.076869/\$100
=This year's rollback rate	.443139/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the **City of Socorro** adopts a 2002 tax rate equal to the effective rate of **.402434** per \$100 of value, taxes would **increase** compared to 2001 taxes by **\$83,104**.

SCHEDULE A

Unencumbered Fund Balances

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

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$1,213,908
Debt Service (I&S)	6,717

SCHEDULE B 2002 Debt Service

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

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Certificates of Obligation 1999	85,000	52,575	-0-	137,575
Certificates of Obligation	13,600	27,788	-0-	41,388
Park & Ride	8,000	-0-	-0-	8,000
Public Service	10	-0-	-0-	10
First National Bank	11,421	4,411	-0-	15,833
First National Bank	1,319	144	-0-	1,463
First Capital Group	10,448	413	-0-	10,861
U.S. Trust	450	-0-	-0-	450
Ford Motor Credit	13,258	974	-0-	14,232
Interlease	1,582	-0-	-0-	1,582
Texas Department of Transportation	77,844	18,239	-0-	96,083

Total required for 2002 debt service	\$327,477
-Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from other resources	-0-
-Excess collections last year	-0-
=Total to be paid from taxes in 2002	327,477
+Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2002	-0-
=Total Debt Levy	327,477

This notice contains a summary of actual effective and rollback tax rate calculations. You can inspect a copy of the full calculations at the City of El Paso Tax Office located at the intersection of Durango and Franklin streets.
Name of person preparing this notice: Juan F. Sandoval
Title: Tax Assessor/Collector
Date prepared: July 29, 2002

City of Socorro PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:30 p.m. during the City Council Meeting of Thursday, August 15, 2002 at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the following proposed ordinance(s):

- 1) Ordinance No. 222, Amendment No. 2, an ordinance creating a local on-call tow truck services provider list and establishing rules and regulations thereto within the City of Socorro, Texas;
- 2) An ordinance adopting a budget for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2002 and ending on September 30, 2003 for the City of Socorro, Texas. In compliance with the City Charter a recap of the budget is printed below.

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

TERE RODRIGUEZ
City Secretary

WTCC: 08/08/02

Public Notice City of Socorro

Balance Budget Recap for FYE 09/30/2003

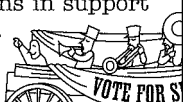
1. Revenues	\$ 6,541,665
General Fund	
2. Administration	730,030
3. Public Works	547,349
4. Police	946,591
5. Court	454,349
6. Planning and Zoning	303,199
7. Health	185,582
8. Special Projects (M&O)	260,572
9. Rio Vista Community Center	89,883
Sub-total General Fund	\$ 3,517,555
Debt Service Fund	
10. Debt Service	327,477
11. Interest	2,733
Sub-total Debt Service	\$ 330,210
Other Funds	
12. Special Projects	1,764,007
13. Tourism-Hotel Tax	11,845
14. Interest	12,300
Sub-total Other Funds	\$ 1,788,152
Allocations	
15. Street Projects 1993/1999 Series	431,898
16. Court, Planning, Museum 2001 Series	283,850
17. Court-Savings	7,000
18. Parks-Reserve	83,000
19. Settlements-Savings	100,000
Sub-total Allocations	\$ 905,748
Total Expenses	\$ 6,541,665
Expenses Over Revenues	\$ -0-

WTCC: 08/08/02 & 08/15/02

Phamiliar phrases "climb on the bandwagon"

This phrase, meaning "to join in support of," comes from the once-common practice of sending a band around town on a wagon to rally voters to come to a meeting. Local leaders might hop on and ride along, calling out slogans in support of the candidate.

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Classified Ads

LEGAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Rio Grande Council of Governments (RGCOG), in cooperation with the TNRCC, announces the availability of Municipal Solid Waste Grant Funding for FY 2003.

Local units of government including cities, counties, public schools and school districts, and special districts with municipal solid waste responsibility, may apply for funding for projects and

activities including: waste reduction/recycling; local enforcement; litter and illegal dumping cleanup; educational and training projects; household hazardous waste events; citizens' collection stations, small transfer stations, and community collection events; and technical studies.

Activities funded under this program must promote cooperation between public and private entities; must not be otherwise readily available; and must not create a competitive advantage

over a private business that provides a recycling or solid waste service.

Applications for grant funding will be available on August 8th and are due by September 9th. Copies of the request for project applications and the application form may be obtained from the RGCOG at 1100 N. Stanton Street, Ste. 610, El Paso, TX 79902. For more information, call Barbara Kauffman at (915) 533-0998, ext. 121. WTCC: 08/08/02

Fabens Independent School District Fabens, TX

Notice of invitation to submit proposals for Athletic Equipment, Training Supplies & Uniform RFP No. 01-02-04. Fabens Independent School District will accept sealed proposals until 10:00 a.m., August 19, 2002 at the Fabens Administration Building on , 821 N. E. "G" Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

Specifications may be secured by writing to the Business Office, P.O. Box

697, Fabens, Tx 79838 or fax request to (915) 764-2968. WTCC: 08/08/02

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.

RANCHO VERDE: Seriously offered for sale — 350 irrigated and produc-

ing acres with full water rights, in El Paso, Texas. 7,500 sq. foot adobe barn; commissary building; two residences; and three-car garage. Established in 1924. Frontage on Socorro Road and Hole-In-The-Wall Rd. Suitable for development. Sealed bids to: Karin Carson, Attorney at Law, 100 N. Stanton 17th Floor, El Paso, Texas 79901. All bids must be received by 12:00 noon on Aug. 30, 2002. Owners reserve the right to reject any and all offers.

Horizon Blvd. in Horizon City on Mondays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. Call 859-0484 for information.

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NOTICE OF EFFECTIVE TAX RATE

2002 Property Tax Rates in Town of Horizon City

This notice concerns 2002 property tax rates for the **Town of Horizon City**. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's effective tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$458,762
Last year's debt taxes	-0-
Last year's total taxes	458,762
Last year's tax base	199,752,683
Last year's total tax rate	.229665/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$457,731
+This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	197,989,301
=This year's effective tax rate	.231189/\$100
x1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings	.238124/\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function, tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$577,382
+This year's adjusted tax base	197,989,301
=This year's effective operating rate	.291623/\$100
x1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	.314952/\$100
+This year's debt rate	.000000/\$100
-Sales tax adjustment rate	.056047/\$100
=This year's rollback rate	.258905/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the **Town of Horizon City** adopts a 2002 tax rate equal to the effective rate of **.231189** per \$100 of value, taxes would **increase** compared to 2001 taxes by **\$34,790**.

SCHEDULE A

Unencumbered Fund Balances

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

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$386,508
Debt Service (I&S)	-0-

SCHEDULE B

2002 Debt Service

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

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

Total required for 2002 debt service	\$-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from other resources	-0-
-Excess collections last year	-0-
=Total to be paid from taxes in 2002	-0-
+Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2002	-0-
=Total Debt Levy	-0-

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

Name of person preparing this notice: Juan F. Sandoval
Title: Tax Assessor/Collector
Date prepared: July 29, 2002



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The **Tornillo Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 5:00 p.m., Monday, August 19, 2002 in the Tornillo High School Library, 300 Oil Mill Road, Tornillo, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.3846	\$ 0.2153*	\$ 1.5999	\$ 574	\$ 6,414
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.5515	\$ 0.2181*	\$ 1.7696	\$ 585	\$ 6,372
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.5000	\$ 0.2181*	\$ 1.7181	\$ 563	\$ 6,372

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

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

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 29,887	\$29,818
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 14,696	\$14,795
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.5999	\$ 1.7181
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 235.12	\$ 254.19
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 19.07

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

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.8296. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.8296.

Fund Balances

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

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,612,340
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ -0-

Cohen's canopy catastrophe

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

It has been said a time or two over the years that God, at times, can have a sense of humor.

Oh, it isn't displayed often but when it is, there is no doubt that the Big Guy upstairs enjoys poking a little fun at his human creatures here on Earth.

And I've got to think that God pokes a little "gotcha" at us when we get a bit too big for our britches or a bit too stupid for our allotted brain cavities.

I believe He took a little time out of his busy schedule this week to focus on little ol' El Paso, Texas. He doesn't often look our way to conduct major business but he probably just couldn't pass this one up.

Now God probably heard, or was informed by one of those angels who's job it is to keep a watchful eye on things, that the El Paso Diablos and their loyal fans were promised a brand-spanking new canopy along with their brand-spanking new stadium 12 years ago.

After all, the citizens were promised it. And a promise is a promise...right? I mean isn't "thou shall not lie" one of the big 10?

Seems then-Diablos owner, Jim Paul, used the canopy money for other things than what it was intended for and El Pasoans were outraged but soon just put it out of their memories.

Then the too-patient citizens of El Paso passed a \$75-million bond a couple years ago. Part of that bond would go to pay for the construction of the canopy (which El Pasoans "paid" for once already) now promised for the start of the 2002 Diablos baseball season.

Season begins on time — yes. Canopy in place as promised — no.

Finally, the canopy is started in the middle of the season. And, after delay after delay after delay, the canopy begins to take shape.

Now God must be thinking to himself that these poor saps in El Paso, who are still looking for a real state that really wants them, have been used and abused long enough by these construction companies and politicians and baseball owners. By

this time He probably feels that He must personally step in and show everyone who the real boss is.

And I don't mean George Steinbrenner.

So — and this is where the humor comes in — after being 12 years late, this stupid canopy is finally erected for a grand total of four Diablos home games...and God teaches his lesson.

He huffed and puffed and blew (throwing in little rain for effect) that canopy all over the Cohen Stadium concourse last Friday.

The uniquely-timed thunderstorm blew away in 30 minutes what took 12 years to put up.

Talk about poetic justice. This canopy was going to be up for about two weeks of this season and then idle for nine months until the start of the 2003 campaign.

El Paso would have started using its canopy in earnest in 2003 when it would have been almost a year old. Is that really the correct way to do business? The construction guys around the country think so...if you're dealing with El Paso.

So God's had his laugh and the canopy must be built all over again.

That's the good news — the canopy was insured and will be built all over again.

The bad news is that it will probably be ready in time for the middle of the 2009 baseball season.

Foot-in-mouth disease

There's absolutely no doubt that Cincinnati Reds general manager Jim Bowden is one of the best in the game...but success has never been a deterrent of sheer stupidity.

Bowden was extremely outspoken about the pending strike date that major league players may issue as early as this week.

But Bowden must learn to pick his words a little more carefully.

Bowden said this week, "If players want to strike, they ought to just

pick Sept. 11, because that's what it's going to do to the game."

O.K., not too bad. A lot of passion there but not too bad. Then Bowden said, "I don't think there's going to be a work stoppage. I don't think anybody's that dumb."

O.K., tough and to the point, but again, not too bad. Then Bowden said, "If they do walk out, make sure it's Sept. 11. Be symbolic. Let Donald Fehr drive the plane right into the building, if that's what they want to do."

OOPS! That was bad. Bowden couldn't really think that 3,000 dead, innocent victims could be compared to a baseball strike, could he? And shouldn't he have been a little less graphic about planes and buildings?

Not smart Jimbo. He did offer an apology. He was also fined by MLB.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The **Clint Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 21, 2002 in the library of Carroll T. Welch Middle School, 14510 McMahon Dr., Horizon City, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.5000	\$ 0.2148*	\$ 1.7148	\$ 831	\$5,060
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.4473	\$ 0.3852*	\$ 1.8325	\$ 947	\$5,218
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.5000	\$ 0.3537*	\$ 1.8537	\$ 974	\$5,242

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

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

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 47,314	\$48,212
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 32,148	\$33,114
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.7148	\$ 1.8537
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 551.27	\$ 613.83
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 62.56

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

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.959563. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of \$1.959563.

Fund Balances

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

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 751,407
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 400,512

NOTICE OF EFFECTIVE TAX RATE

2002 Property Tax Rates in El Paso County Emergency Services District #2

This notice concerns 2002 property tax rates for the **El Paso County Emergency Services District #2**. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$1,542,277
Last year's debt taxes	-0-
Last year's total taxes	1,542,277
Last year's tax base	1,542,277,000
Last year's total tax rate	.100000/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$1,539,321
+This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	1,541,212,389
=This year's effective tax rate	.099877/\$100
x1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings	.102873/\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function, tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$1,539,321
+This year's adjusted tax base	1,541,212,389
=This year's effective operating rate	.099877/\$100
x1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	.107867/\$100
+This year's debt rate	.000000/\$100
=This year's rollback rate	.107867/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the **El Paso County Emergency Services District #2** adopts a 2002 tax rate equal to the effective rate of **.099877** per \$100 of value, taxes would **increase** compared to 2001 taxes by **\$47,124**.

SCHEDULE A

Unencumbered Fund Balances

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

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

SCHEDULE B

2002 Debt Service

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

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

Total required for 2002 debt service	\$-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from other resources	-0-
-Excess collections last year	-0-
=Total to be paid from taxes in 2002	-0-
+Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2002	-0-
=Total Debt Levy	-0-

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

Name of person preparing this notice: Juan F. Sandoval

Title: Tax Assessor/Collector

Date prepared: July 29, 2002

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COUNTY OF EL PASO, TEXAS

OFFICE OF RURAL COMMUNITY AFFAIRS 2003 COLONIA CONSTRUCTION FUND 2002 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

The County of El Paso will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, August 13, 2002, at 6:00 p.m. at the Lower Valley Water District, 1557 FM 1110, Clint, Texas 79836. Purpose of the meeting is to solicit citizen participation and receive public comment in the establishment of housing and community development needs. Applications for funding will be submitted under the Texas Community Development Program, 2003 Colonia Construction Fund and 2002 Community Development Fund.

Citizens are encouraged to attend the hearing and present their views to the County. If you cannot attend in person, written comments may also be submitted and will be accepted by the County until these public hearings are concluded. For further information, contact Rodrigo Mercado at the County Community Development Department, 500 E. San Antonio Ave., Suite 313 (915) 543-3845.

WTCC-08/08/02

San Eli High School seeks nominations for 2002 best-ex

SAN ELIZARIO — The Student Council of San Elizario High School is currently accepting nominations for an Outstanding Ex Student to be honored at the 2002 Homecoming festivities Oct. 7-12.

Deadline to submit nominations is Sept. 13. Nominations should be mailed to Cookie Laffler, StuCo advisor, San Elizario High School, P.O. Box 920, San Elizario, TX 79849, or faxed to Cookie Laffler at (915) 872-3971. Nominees must have graduated from San Elizario High School prior to 1995, and should have excelled in their chosen career or in service to the community. Nomination letters should describe the nominees high school achievements, goals achieved post-graduation, and explanation of why this person is deserving to be named Outstanding Ex Student.

Nomination forms are at the high school office or submit a letter of nomination, including a current address and phone number for both nominee and nominator.

"We really want an Honored Ex who can attend the Homecoming parade and pep rally," Student Council President Maritza Jimenez said. Persons submitting nominations should make sure the nominee will be able to come if chosen.

King Super Crossword

WRITE RIGHT ACROSS

- 1 Trails
- 5 It's a long story
- 9 Photographer
- Arbus
- 14 Opposite
- 19 Tigris-Euphrates land
- 20 King of comedy
- 21 Maestro Dorati
- 22 "Gay"
- 23 Waiter's offering
- 24 Waiting room sign?
- 27 "Room" ('02 film)
- 29 Platonic character
- 30 Do Little work?
- 31 Political abbr.
- 32 Punjabi prince
- 34 Throbbled
- 38 "Git, Garfield!"
- 41 Tour The Eternal City?
- 45 Mr. Ed?
- 49 Med. test
- 50 Sometimes it's sweet
- 52 Stumble
- 53 Kindled anew
- 55 Lawrence's locale
- 58 Confessional feature
- 60 With 9 Down, "Reeling in the Years" rockers
- 61 Less available
- 62 Bear's advice
- 63 Proclamations
- 65 Snug spot
- 66 Pack the freight
- 69 _ Alamos, NM
- 70 Overly
- 71 Screenwriter James
- 72 Has-been actor?
- 75 Nasty attitude?
- 77 "Wild Child" singer

- 78 Bird's beak
- 79 "Hurrah!"
- 81 Balloon material?
- 82 Novelist Amy
- 83 Tacitus' tongue
- 85 Sicilian rumbler
- 87 Soprano Mitchell
- 91 Kilauea, for one
- 93 Nogales naps
- 95 Pollux's twin
- 96 Maugham's "Of _ Bondage"
- 97 "... in a pod"
- 98 Normandy site
- 100 Flat hat
- 101 Poison alert?
- 105 Gush?
- 108 "Are you - out?"
- 109 Macabre
- 111 Harmony
- 112 Mister, in Madras
- 115 Appreciated, in the '50s
- 117 Unwind a rind
- 119 Loser to Truman
- 123 Kvetched together?
- 130 Heart burn?
- 131 Black piano key
- 132 Make Fido fetch
- 133 Siegmeyer or Wiesel
- 134 Hurler Hershiser
- 135 New Hampshire campus
- 136 Red Sea nation
- 137 Figure of interest?
- 138 Swiss sharp-shooter

- birthplace
- 7 Corral feature
- 8 A Pointer sister
- 9 See 60 Across
- 10 Business abbr.
- 11 Demolished a
- Danish
- 12 Oenophile's mecca
- 13 Slip by
- 14 I.M. the architect
- 15 TV's "_ Step Beyond"
- 16 Protracted
- 17 Choir member
- 18 Kind of file
- 25 Apiece
- 26 Part of M.I.T.
- 28 Subway unit
- 33 Spanish dance
- 35 Resort features
- 36 Viscount's better
- 37 Like a raisin
- 39 It comes from the heart
- 40 "Lemon ..." ('65 hit)
- 41 Bring up
- 42 Gumbo thickener
- 43 John of "Fort Apache"
- 44 Lodge brothers
- 46 Ariel, for instance
- 47 Singer Percy
- 48 Heckart or Brennan
- 51 Mourful sound
- 54 Actress Daly
- 56 Politician Abzug
- 57 "Dies ..."
- 59 "Xanadu" rockers
- 60 Sharon of "Sliver"
- 64 Stocking stuffer?
- 67 Iranian currency
- 68 Correct a text
- 71 Hospital employees
- 72 Stagnating
- 73 Go-getter

- 74 San Luis _, CA
- 75 Feathered yakkers
- 76 Actress Powers
- 77 Decorate glass
- 79 Military response
- 80 ABA member
- 83 October
- Revolution name
- 84 Sib's kid
- 86 Concerning
- 88 "Beetle Bailey" bulldog
- 89 Genesis patriarch
- 90 "Babes in ..." ('37 musical)
- 92 '72 Harry Chapin hit
- 94 Vacation sensation
- 95 Tearoom item
- 99 Blows one's cool
- 102 Affirmative actions?
- 103 Reliable
- 104 Puppy bites
- 106 Remnant
- 107 It's spotted at zoos
- 110 Avid
- 112 Pierre's st.
- 113 Widespread
- 114 Land in the sea
- 116 Richard of "The Cotton Club"
- 118 Actress Lenska
- 120 Spotted
- 121 Daredevil Knievel
- 122 Scream
- 124 Pantry item
- 125 Multipurpose vehicle
- 126 Create a reservoir
- 127 Mozart's "_ Zauberflote"
- 128 Tavern
- 129 Peg for Palmer

DOWN

- 1 Like a wet noodle
- 2 Precinct
- 3 "The Journey of Natty ..." ('85 film)
- 4 Write
- 5 Sweet stuff
- 6 Helen Keller's

Answer Page 4

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The **Anthony Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, August 20, 2002 in the Middle School Cafeteria, 610 Sixth Street, Anthony, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operation	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 1.4925	\$ 0.1816*	\$ 1.6741	\$2,497	\$5,110
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 1.5116	\$ 0.1923*	\$ 1.7039	\$2,549	\$5,138
Proposed Rate	\$ 1.5000	\$ 0.1923*	\$ 1.6923	\$2,427	\$4,552

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

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

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 52,889	\$53,306
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 37,703	\$38,206
Last Year's Rate Versus		
Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.6741	\$ 1.6923
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 631.18	\$ 646.56
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ 15.38

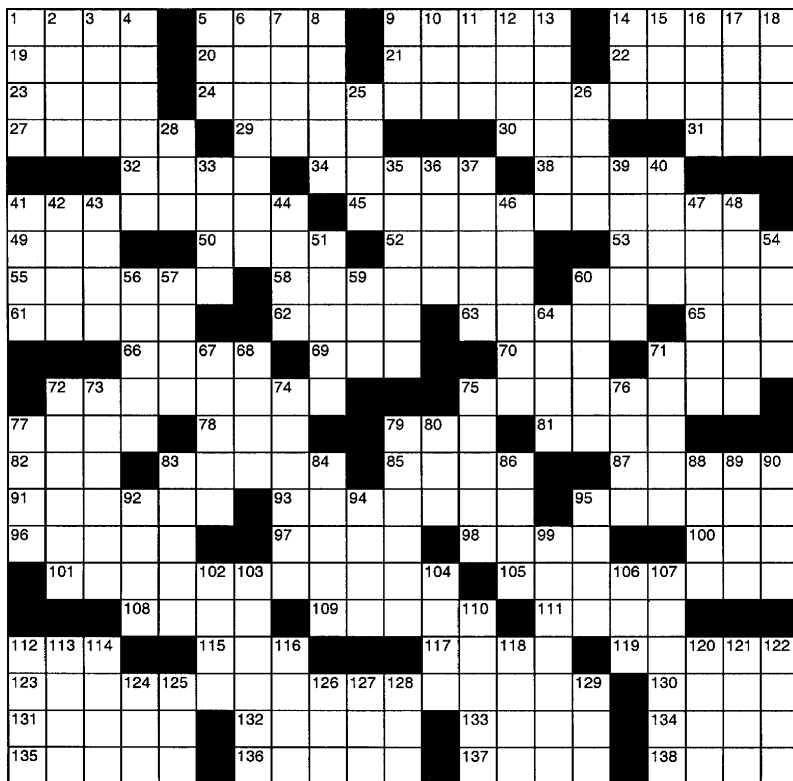
Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year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

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.831018. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.831018.

Fund Balances

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

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,877,754
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ (217,410)



Village of Vinton PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 19, 2002 during the Planning Commission meeting at Vinton Village Hall, 436 Vinton Rd., Vinton, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed items:

- 1) Consider and take action on request for Special Permit to allow a public water storage tank on portions of Tracts 5C and 6, Maria Rodriguez Survey No. 35, Village of Vinton, El Paso County, Texas (corner of I-10 and Valley Chile Road).

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the Village Clerk of the Village of Vinton.

CAMILLE CASTILLO
Village Clerk

WTCC: 08/08/02

Hi, I'm John Travolta — fly me

By Don Flood

John Travolta is on an unusual mission. As a goodwill ambassador for Australia's Qantas Airlines, Vinnie Barbarino — I mean Travolta — is piloting a Boeing 707 around the world.

The idea: to encourage people to fly again. (Digression warning! Under Federal Truth in Column Writing Guidelines, we are required to warn readers of impending digressions, which may or may not have a point.

The following digression has been given an Orange rating, which means you may continue reading but that an extra level of caution is recommended. Caution for what, we don't know. But watch out, here it comes.)

And no I'm not going to use an airline column as an excuse to join the 5 billion other writers and comedians who complain about airline food.

OK, I will, but just briefly so that I can provide some insight into how I believe airlines decide which flights deserve food.

ATTENDANT 1: Do we serve a meal this flight?

ATTENDANT 2: Well, is it during mealtime?

ATTENDANT 1: Yes!

ATTENDANT 2: Idiot! Of course not!

(This has been a test of Federal Column Digression Warning System. In the event of an actual full-scale digression emergency, you would have been asked to put down this newspaper immediately and curl up into a little ball. We now return to our regularly scheduled column.)

To its great credit, Qantas may have hit upon an exciting new way to encourage air travel — celebrity pilots!

This would be especially effective, if as in Travolta's case, you could combine a flight with a Travolta film fest, highlighting all of his great movies, including — well, I'll get back to you on that — but I think this idea would really fly. (Ha! Ha!)

Hopefully, other celebrities would be willing to do their part, even if they're not pilots.

Brad Pitt, given enough time, could be trained to handle baggage check-in or work the ticket counter.

Julia Roberts would be a sensational flight attendant; people might actually watch the speech on safety procedures.

And not only A-list stars are needed. B-stars, has-beens, the many thousands ready to get out of rehab, America's skyways can use them all.

Aging action stars like Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger could find a new career by helping with security.

Remember Kathie Lee Gifford, how she used to dance and sing around those cruise ships? ("If my friends could see me now!") She could do the same thing on random flights for the airlines — in person!

OK, I guess that would scare people away, but that doesn't mean she couldn't drive one of those shuttle buses from the airport to the parking lot, as long she kept her eyes on the road and didn't start singing.

But the main thing is, with Tony Manero — I mean, John Travolta — in the cockpit, we could get this country flying again.

Especially if he brought along some good Italian food.

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Canutillo

From Page 1

replacing Vicki Davis who retired.

The board of trustees approved superintendent Charles Hart's recommendations of Monica Reyes to the evaluation/curriculum post and Margarita Armendariz as director of student/community services. Reyes is the former assistant principal at Childress Elementary. Armendariz was the district coordinator for parent involvement programs.

Margarita Porras-Grant replaces Reyes as Childress' assistant principal. Replacing Rios-O'Donnell as prin-

icipal of the high school is Derrick Brown who crosses state lines, coming to Canutillo ISD from the Gadsden school district where he was principal of the high school.

Brown, who is beginning his 19th year in the teaching profession, praises the work of his predecessor. "She has done a good job. It is a good staff. This is a pretty good situation."

The biggest challenge now is getting acclimated and learning Texas law, he says.

A special education diagnostician for eight years, Priscilla Caballero has been named special education director. She is replacing Robert Garner who also retired in June.

NOTICE OF EFFECTIVE TAX RATE

2002 Property Tax Rates in Homestead Municipal Utility District

This notice concerns 2002 property tax rates for the **Homestead Municipal Utility District**. It presents information about three tax rates. Last year's tax rate is the actual rate the taxing unit used to determine property taxes last year. This year's *effective* tax rate would impose the same total taxes as last year if you compare properties taxed in both years. This year's *rollback* tax rate is the highest tax rate the taxing unit can set before taxpayers can start tax rollback procedures. In each case these rates are found by dividing the total amount of taxes by the tax base (the total value of taxable property) with adjustments as required by state law. The rates are given per \$100 of property value.

Last year's tax rate:

Last year's operating taxes	\$102,354
Last year's debt taxes	181,964
Last year's total taxes	284,318
Last year's tax base	56,863,600
Last year's total tax rate	.500000/\$100

This year's effective tax rate:

Last year's adjusted taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property)	\$284,235
+This year's adjusted tax base (after subtracting value of new property)	56,576,424
=This year's effective tax rate	.502391/\$100
x1.03 = maximum rate unless unit publishes notices and holds hearings	.485328/\$100

This year's rollback tax rate:

Last year's adjusted operating taxes (after subtracting taxes on lost property and adjusting for transferred function, tax increment financing, and/or enhanced indigent health care expenditures)	\$102,324
+This year's adjusted tax base	56,576,424
=This year's effective operating rate	.180860/\$100
x1.08 = this year's maximum operating rate	.195328/\$100
+This year's debt rate	.290000/\$100
=This year's rollback rate	.485328/\$100

Statement of Increase/Decrease

If the **Homestead Municipal Utility District** adopts a 2002 tax rate equal to the effective rate of **.502391** per \$100 of value, taxes would **increase** compared to 2001 taxes by **\$14,517**.

SCHEDULE A

Unencumbered Fund Balances

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

Type of Property Tax Fund	Balance
Maintenance & Operation (M&O)	\$534,000
Debt Service (I&S)	-0-

SCHEDULE B

2002 Debt Service

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

Description of Debt	Principal or Contract Payment to be Paid from Property Taxes	Interest to be Paid from Property Taxes	Other Amounts to be Paid	Total Payment
Series 1995 Tax Refunding Bonds	\$75,000	\$ 82,624	\$-0-	\$157,624
Series 1995-A Tax & Rev. Bonds	5,000	21,919	-0-	26,919

Total required for 2002 debt service	\$184,543
-Amount (if any) paid from funds listed in Schedule A	-0-
-Amount (if any) paid from other resources	12,043
-Excess collections last year	-0-
=Total to be paid from taxes in 2002	172,500
+Amount added in anticipation that the unit will collect only 100% of its taxes in 2002	-0-
=Total Debt Levy	172,500

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

Name of person preparing this notice: Juan F. Sandoval

Title: Tax Assessor/Collector

Date prepared: July 29, 2002

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



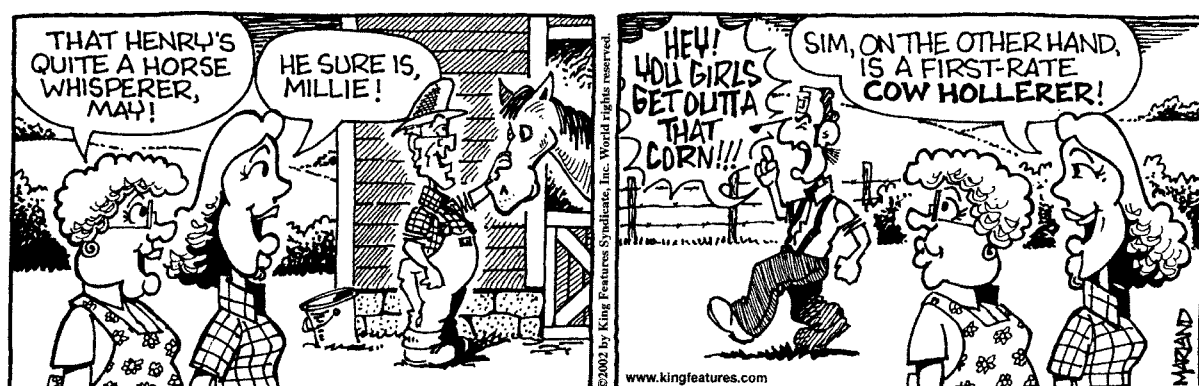
GOT A LIFE By Terri Davis



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



San Elizario elementary schools get new look with uniforms

By Phillip Cortez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Alarcón Elementary will start new look August 19; Middle School implements standard gym attire

Students attending Alarcón Elementary will begin the 2002-03 school year wearing uniforms thanks to overwhelming parental support while Borrego and Sambrano Elementary Schools won't be too far behind.

Alarcón parents voiced strong in-

terest for the change during the 2001-02 school year and this prompted the campus to survey teachers and parents in the spring. The surveys showed that 87% of parents at the campus approved of their children wearing uniforms. Borrego and Sambrano Elementary Schools are also getting very favorable feedback from parents at their respective campuses. The Board of Trustees approved of the mandatory attire during the regular July meeting.

"Research has proven that uniforms provide a stabilizing affect on

students," said Superintendent Mike Quatrini. "The affects range from disciplinary and behavioral issues, academic success and even cost-effectiveness for parents. Since the Middle School implemented standard uniform attire, much improvement has occurred with regard to these same issues."

Alarcón Principal Virginia Padilla agreed. She said that the uniforms worn at her campus will help students place a shift towards academics rather than how they look.

"It's going to enhance academics,"

Padilla said. "For parents, the change will help economically."

From now on, students at Alarcón will wear navy blue polo shirts with no logos on them and khaki pants and shorts for the boys, khaki pants, shorts, skirts/skorts and capris for girls. There has been no change in the dress code for footwear. Parents can purchase uniforms at Wal-Mart, Target, K-Mart, Mex-Tex, a specialty uniform store, sells navy blue polo shirts with the San Elizario district logo (the only acceptable logo for shirts), as well as khaki apparel.

Meanwhile, Borrego and Sambrano Elementary Schools will gradually start implementing the new uniform policy as parents continue to turn in their surveys during the 2002-03 school year. The policy would then become mandatory during the 2003-04 school year.

Uniforms are not new to the district. San Elizario Middle School became the first district campus to implement standard attire during the 1999-2000 year. In 2002-03, Middle School students will be required to suit out in standard gym attire for P.E. classes.

WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunny to partly cloudy; p.m. t-storm in spots.	An evening t-storm possible, then partly cloudy.	Partly sunny; chance of a p.m. t-storm.	Clouds and sun; chance of a p.m. t-storm.	Partly sunny; chance of a p.m. t-storm.	Sun and clouds; possible p.m. t-storm.	Sunny to partly cloudy.	Mostly sunny.
▲ 92°	▼ 70°	▲ 94° ▼ 72°	▲ 92° ▼ 72°	▲ 92° ▼ 72°	▲ 94° ▼ 68°	▲ 100° ▼ 70°	▲ 100° ▼ 70°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	10	Very High
Friday	9	Very High
Saturday	9	Very High
Sunday	10	Very High
Monday	9	Very High
Tuesday	10	Very High
Wednesday	10	Very High

REAL FEEL TEMP™

The exclusive AccuWeather composite of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

Thursday	102°
Friday	93°
Saturday	89°
Sunday	94°
Monday	94°
Tuesday	98°
Wednesday	100°

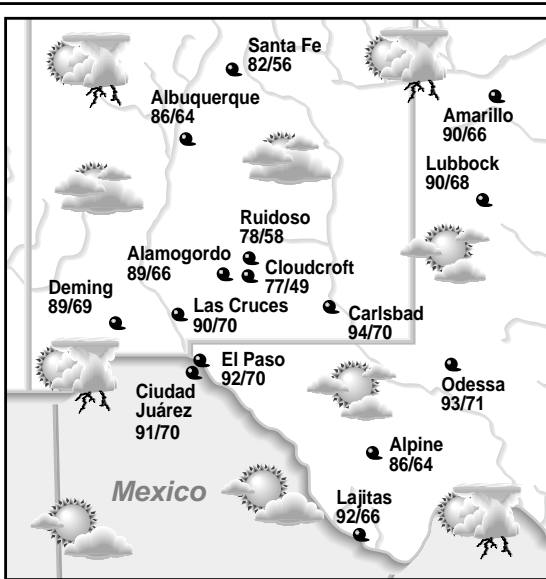
AGRICULTURE

The next few days will be similar with sunshine to start, then some thunderstorms will develop during the afternoon and evening hours. Most areas will remain dry, but those areas that do get a thunderstorm could pick up 0.50 of an inch in a short amount of time.

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	92	70
Canutillo	93	71
Clint	91	72
E. Montana	92	70
Fabens	91	72
Horizon	93	71
San Elizario	89	72
Socorro	91	70
Tornillo	91	72
Vinton	93	71

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	86/64/pc	88/62/pc	86/62/pc	88/64/pc	90/66/s
Atlanta	86/64/s	88/66/s	88/68/s	90/70/pc	88/72/t
Atlantic City	78/64/s	82/66/s	87/70/s	82/68/pc	85/72/s
Austin/San Antonio	92/74/t	92/72/c	94/72/pc	96/74/c	97/72/pc
Baltimore	82/58/s	86/64/s	90/68/s	88/66/pc	88/72/s
Boston	78/62/s	80/64/pc	84/66/pc	82/64/pc	78/68/pc
Chicago	82/64/s	84/68/pc	84/66/t	83/63/pc	83/63/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	94/76/pc	92/76/pc	92/74/pc	94/75/c	96/71/pc
Denver	88/56/pc	78/52/pc	84/54/pc	86/56/s	84/56/pc
Flagstaff	80/48/s	81/54/pc	81/54/pc	80/51/c	80/46/pc
Houston	90/74/t	92/74/pc	94/76/pc	96/76/s	94/72/pc
Kansas City	84/66/pc	82/62/pc	80/60/s	82/64/pc	87/67/pc
Las Vegas	104/80/s	106/80/pc	106/80/s	106/80/s	108/82/s
Miami	90/78/pc	90/78/c	90/78/pc	90/78/pc	88/75/c
Minneapolis	84/66/t	82/60/sh	82/62/pc	84/64/pc	82/60/t
New Orleans	90/76/t	90/76/s	92/76/pc	90/76/pc	91/74/pc
New York City	80/66/s	84/70/s	88/74/s	86/70/pc	86/74/s
Philadelphia	82/64/s	86/66/s	90/70/s	86/68/pc	88/72/s
Phoenix	105/84/s	107/84/s	107/84/s	105/84/s	105/82/s
Portland	84/58/s	88/60/s	86/60/s	78/58/pc	78/56/pc
San Francisco	85/54/s	85/54/s	78/54/s	74/54/pc	74/54/pc
Seattle	78/56/s	80/56/s	78/56/pc	72/54/pc	70/54/pc
Tucson	96/74/pc	98/76/pc	98/74/pc	100/74/s	100/74/s
Washington, DC	84/64/s	88/68/s	90/72/s	88/70/pc	90/74/s

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

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

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