

# WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 29, No. 43

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

OCTOBER 24, 2002

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Lower Valley incentives

El Paso County has received \$12 million in tax incentives for the Empowerment Zones and Renewal Communities below I-10 to the border and East from Loop 375 (Avenue of the Americas) to the county line. A public information meeting will be held on Nov. 1 at 3 p.m. in the Clint Community Center, 200 N. San Elizario Rd. to hear a presentation from the County Economic Development Office. The information will include which projects are eligible for funding, benefits available, deadlines and other existing incentive programs which benefit economically distressed communities. The County will be taking applications at that time for business owners or property owners interested in applying for benefits. For more information contact John Torres with the El Paso County Economic Development, which is the administrative agency in charge of the funding at 546-2000. Tax Incentive information from the IRS is available at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), Publication 954.

### Service noted

Horizon City community booster Art Borst was recently awarded the "Distinguished President" pin by the International Kiwanis Club for his service as president of the Horizon City Kiwanis from October of 2000 to October of 2002. Borst was noted for his successful supervision of fund-raising and charitable events, recruitment of new members, establishing a Key Club at Americas High School, a superlative guest-speaker program, and the donation of \$51,000 to the Iodine Deficiency Syndrome (IDS) Prevention Program through which Kiwanis International helps prevent blindness in children in third world countries. Bethani Sellers was also noted for her outstanding service as secretary during that tenure.

### In other news

■ The central polling location has changed for voters in the San Elizario area. It has moved from San Elizario Middle School to Borrego Elementary School at 13300 Chicken Ranch Rd. The change was made because it is more centrally located in the district and there is more parking accommodations for the general public. Questions can be directed to 872-3900.

■ About 130 JROTC teams are expected to converge in the Socorro Activities Complex on Oct. 26 for the largest drill event in the El Paso area. Teams will demonstrate their expertise in marksmanship, color guard and other drill events. Competition begins at 7:45 a.m. and ends with an awards ceremony at 6 p.m.

■ The Village of Vinton and the TexCare Collaborative of West Texas are hosting the first-ever Vinton Social Service and Health Fair on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 436 E. Vinton Road. Free screenings for blood sugar levels, finger-printing for children, CHIP enrollment and more will be offered. Contact the

See BRIEFS, Page 6

*Being perfect requires a knack for shoving your mistakes off on someone else.*

— Quips and Quotes

## Two Socorro citizens say they want to recall mayor

By Arleen Beard  
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — Two Socorro residents say they intend to file a petition to recall Mayor Irma Sanchez from office.

At the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on Oct. 17, during open forum, Monica Aguirre and Laura Rizo spoke separately, requesting "a recall petition form" in the hopes of removing Mayor Sanchez.

City Attorney Francisco Dominguez informed Ms. Dominguez that she may go forward and file their petition, but that there was no specific form available unless it was for an initiative or a referendum.

He also went on to inform her that she would need to wait until six months after the May election to file the petition. Ms. Rizo also told City Council that there are "sev-

eral hundred people ready to sign the petition" to recall the mayor.

Bernardo Frescas, also a Socorro resident, spoke out during open forum, but he is against the recall petition and is satisfied with the job Mayor Sanchez is doing.

Trini Lopez, a former city representative, addressed Council to share his disappointment for the presence of security guards at the meetings. He said there is no need for the security guards and that people who attend the meetings "behave in a civil manner."

No one from Council responded to his comments.

In other business, David Claudio, a representative from CBS Environmental made a presentation to Council regarding the MS-4 permit which the City of Socorro would be required to obtain, regarding the storm sewer system. This



Irma Sanchez

See SOCORRO, Page 5

## San Elizario Paint-a-thon turns home into canvas of accomplishment

By Phillip Cortez  
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — It's one of the most satisfying senses of accomplishment, when brush meets canvas and color and imagination bring life to an empty slate until that final signature of completion is painted.

A few select students from both San Elizario High School and Middle School felt that accomplishment last month — although their

canvases had windows and rooftops — during Project Bravo's Paint-a-thon.

"Project Bravo came to me last spring and wanted to know if we'd participate during the fall," said Col. Roy Gray, who along with Chief Manuel Jaquez head up the Naval JROTC at San Elizario High School. "Our only condition was that we wanted to help out right here in San Elizario."

So Gray and his group of 23 students in the Naval JROTC Officer Training class spent a late September Saturday painting the light

beige home of Evangelina Rodriguez to a classic white.

"I'm very happy with the job the students did," Rodriguez said. "They came and worked hard."

San Elizario Middle School students in the Peer Assistance Leadership (PAL) club worked just as hard, according to Elizabeth Amato, a teacher at the school who



COLORING THE COMMUNITY — San Elizario High School Naval JROTC students take a break from painting the home of Evangelina Rodriguez, part of the Project Bravo Paint-a-thon, September 28.

See PAINT, Page 7

## Fabens ISD names finalist for superintendent

FABENS — The Fabens Independent School District board of trustees has named Eldefonso "Pancho" Garcia as the single finalist for the position of superintendent during their regular meeting on Oct. 16. The action was taken on unanimous vote to finalize Garcia's service as interim superintendent since the departure of Dr. Lu Stephens last summer.

Garcia has been the district's Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum since July of 2000. He supervised the overall instructional program for the district which has resulted in Fabens High School becoming the

first Texas Education Agency "Recognized" campus in the district.

Prior to coming to Fabens, Garcia was a principal of schools in Ft. Stockton, Presidio and Alpine. He is a graduate of Sul Ross State University where he earned a masters in school administration in 1979.

His wife, Rosa Garcia, is Dean of Instruction at Fabens High School, and their son, Jason, is in medical school in Houston.

Final approval will be made at the November meeting.



Pancho Garcia

## Tornillo shows off improvements and introduces superintendent at open house

By Don Woodyard  
Courier Staff Writer

TORNILLO — The Tornillo school district bills itself as "a small district doing BIG things for students."

However, in a festive open house last Monday night, the district was also doing big things for 200 residents of the Lower Valley community.

Gathered in the cafeteria of the elementary school, they dined and were entertained as they met and mingled with the new superintendent, Paul Vranish; school board president Carol Escarciga and other trustees.

The district was opening its doors to the community and showing them the fruits of their tax dollars at work.

Tornillo voters had approved a \$6 million bond issue. Combined with state funding, the money went to move and remodel the central administration office, build the Jim O'Neal vocational building at the high school and build a new library at the elementary school.

"You don't know how absolutely excited I am to see so many of you here tonight," said Vranish who joined the district on June 3.

Vranish has 24 years in the education field with six years experience as superintendent. He comes to Tornillo from the Buffalo, TX, school district. Tornillo is the third district in which he has held the superintendency.

Repeatedly emphasizing that everyone worked together as a team, Vranish, who came on board June 3, reached out to the community.

"I need your help," he said. He defined a team as a group that gets together and does things better than any one person could.

"How many of you will be part of the team?" he asked. He then asked for a show of hands from board members and parents from those who would be a part of that team — and many hands went up.

In an earlier interview he also stressed teamwork — "of getting parents involved, of getting heavily involved, of working together."

He said Tornillo is the first district he's come to that hasn't had financial problems. However, he candidly pointed out a major problem. "Test scores are terrible."

He also noted some positives.

"I've got to brag about the staff. The leadership is very good. The talent is there. They are extra talented." He noted that people here know their jobs, something that was not always the case in the other districts where he served.

"There is a lot going well, (but) we've got to get our flow better — people supporting each other."

Escarciga challenged the parents. "Let's keep our focus on the most important things we have — our kids."



## One perspective

By Francis Shrum

# Another dog tale

I want to make one thing perfectly clear.

I don't like dogs. Never have. They are messy, noisy, destructive, expensive and never take responsibility for themselves.

Still, my mood this morning is lower than a boxer's lips.

I lost another dog yesterday.

He's not really lost. I know where he is. It's just that he doesn't live at my house anymore. He went home yesterday with two darling little girls who have really been missing him. Now it's my turn.

Our big red dog died several months ago, on the Fourth of July, and like everything else he did, he did it the hard way. It took him all day. Every time we decided it was time to end his suffering for him, it looked like he was dead. Then a few minutes later he would somehow revive the breathing process in his 150 pounds of bone and red hair. It was a terrible day.

Of course, it was even worse for the boxer. The Most Valuable Dog in the World was understandably lonely after that. Then one day a few months ago our neighbor showed up at the door with this drop-dead darling terrier he found wandering the street. It was plain that he was somebody's baby. He was wearing a collar and a leash harness but no tags.

Now, I know better than to do what we did. We took him in.

This happened to me once before. There was this cute little dog hanging out in the neighborhood. He was thin and hungry and took a liking to my girls. After several days I let him in the back yard and fed him.

We named him "Trouble," as in "one more dog is nothing but trouble."

About a year ago while we were out of town he crawled out of the back yard and we never saw him again. That was the first time I ever missed trouble I no longer had.

Now here I was, repeating my error.

"Your pet may be living at my house. Small dog found in Horizon City. Call to identify," the ad read. We ran it for more than a month. We got all kinds of hopeful calls, from folks missing a dachshund, a poodle, a mix with health problems.

We started calling him Jackson. He was some kind of watch dog. He put the neighbor's yard man, the air conditioner repair man, the trash man, and the big black birds in the pecan tree on notice that he was on duty 24 hours a day and they'd better walk softly on his turf.

Best of all, the boxer liked him so much she stayed home without being chained.

Then yesterday afternoon we came home to find an anxious-looking family in the front yard.

Suddenly, Jackson's name wasn't Jackson anymore. His name was Whiskey and he had this whole other family and they were going to take him home, rightfully so, and what kind of fool was I for not remembering this very thing would likely happen?

There is something to be said for immature, emotional children who burst into tears when they are disappointed. You can hide a whole lot of un-grownup-like feelings behind that kind of turmoil.

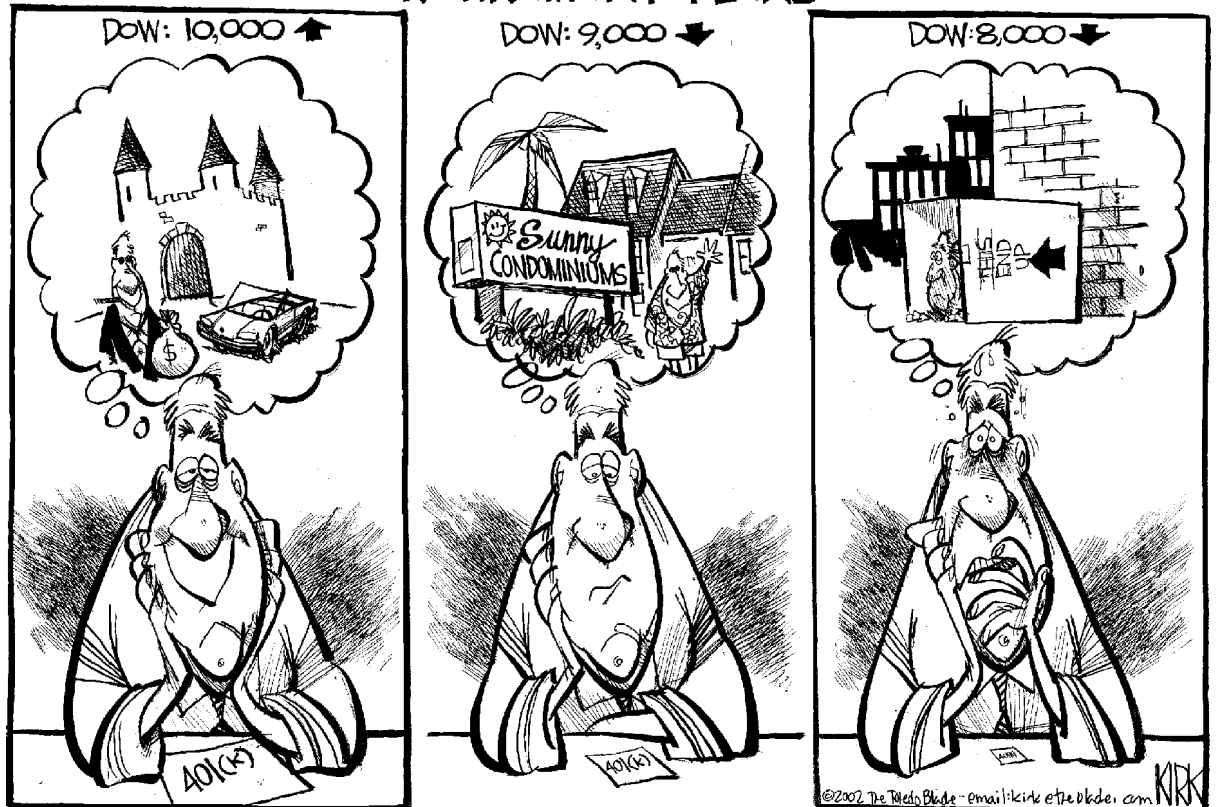
I was suddenly wishing I had some kids like that.

Instead, mine just quietly handed over the dog and stood there, wearing that I-hope-Mom-is-going-to

See DOG, Page 7



## RETIREMENT PLANS



# WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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

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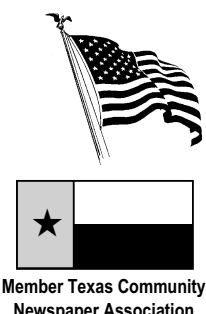
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## For Sanity's Sake

By Taprina Milburn

# Bus stop blues

My youngest child, a first-grader, is at the table day-dreaming, and so far all that he's eaten of his breakfast is the brown sugar I forgot to stir into his hot cereal.

Finally he takes in a few bites of the oatmeal and washes it down with orange juice. He goes to the floor and sits while he adjusts the pads in his tennis shoes and holds up the laces to make sure they're even. With great precision, but at a leisurely pace, he ties them and once again measures. Then he starts up a lengthy monologue about something he's watched on television. I'm resisting the temptation to put my hands on my hips and scream, "Hurry."

Instead I hold up my hand to pause him and ask, "The school bus will be here in eight minutes. Is there anything else you need to do before it gets here?" I hope this will jog his memory to feed his cat, comb his hair and put his reader into his backpack.

"Oh, it's a school day? I forgot," he says. I bite my tongue and point to his reader. The light goes on for him, and he places the book in his backpack.

I read somewhere recently that three of the important rules for living a happy family life and creating independent children are: 1) don't nag, 2) don't nag and 3) don't nag. So I'm struggling with trying a more hands-off approach lately to parenting.

Instead of standing over my children from the time they get out of bed until their sneakers step on the bus, I'm attempting to see if they can handle their morning routine on their own, knowing that there will be days they won't make it, and will have to experience the consequences of not eating their breakfast or not remembering their homework.

Yikes. I've always thought it was my job to buffer

them from pain.

We now have five minutes left, and my son's hair still looks as if he just rolled out of bed.

"Is there anything else you might want to do before the bus gets here?" I ask.

He touches his head, remembering that his hair needs a comb run through it.

My daughter tells us that she hears the bus up the street. I walk into the bathroom and see that my son has combed his hair but is reaching for the hair gel so he can have the ultimate spike.

I look out the door and see the bus getting closer to our house. When I walk back to the bathroom, however, I notice that my son has grabbed his blue hair gel and now has what looks like a big glob of berries resting on his head. A lot is smeared above his eyebrows, too.

I forfeit my hands-off campaign and wipe off the gunk from his head and face and scoot him out the door as the bus driver honks for my kids.

My son runs toward the bus and then halfway down the driveway turns and runs back to me.

His routine may not be finely tuned yet, but he did remember the most important part.

"I didn't kiss you goodbye," he said, grabbing me with blue hands.

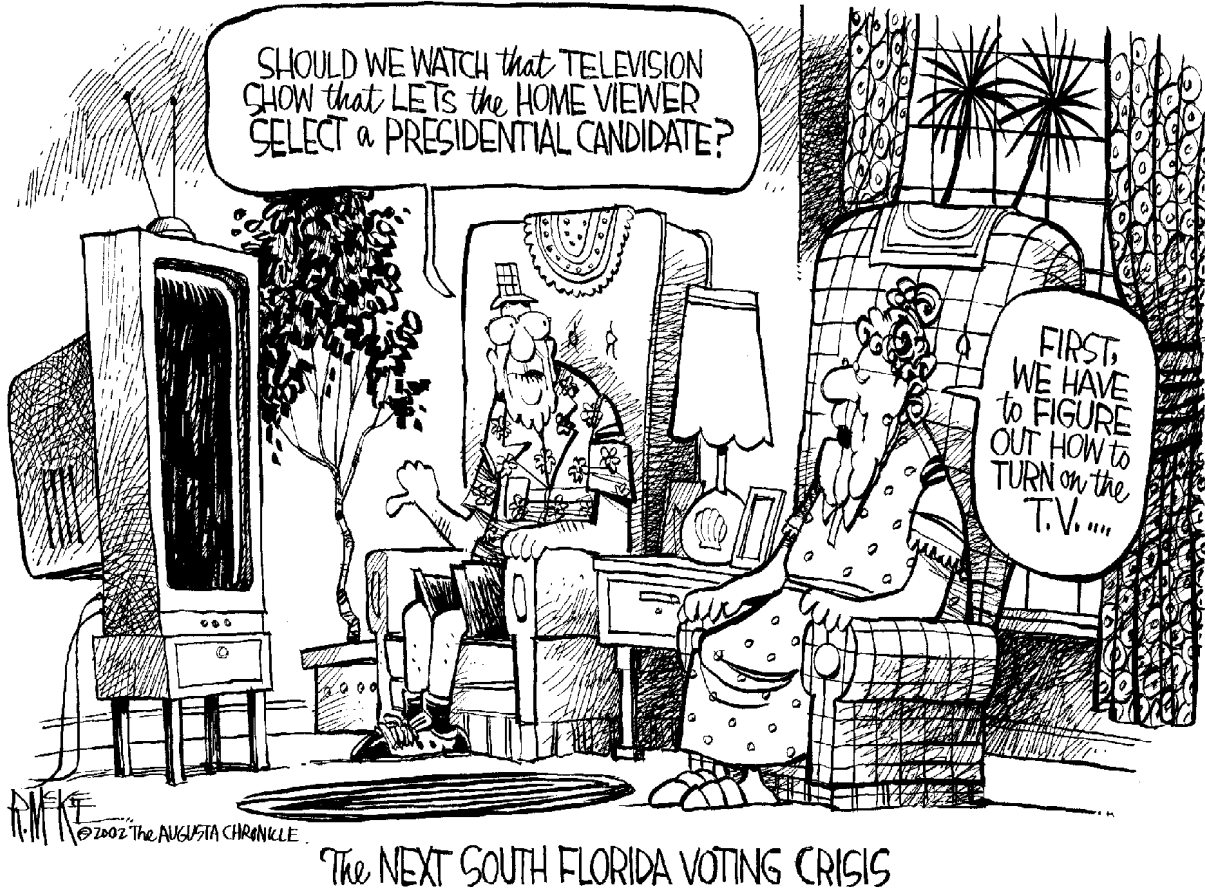
I have a recurring dream that my kids call me from college to ask what they are to wear or what they are to have for breakfast. I wake with the feeling that I did my job so well taking care of them and every detail of their lives that they are unable to take care of themselves.

My son told my husband and me one day that we wouldn't have to worry about him remembering what to do when he's in college.

"I want to be home-colleged," he informed us.

All the more reason I plan to be vigilant about helping him learn to get out to the bus stop on time.

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



**The touch of agriculture**

I had a meeting the other day with some folks from the Texas Farm Bureau. They're a great group of people and I always look forward to talking with them. In our meetings, we discuss everything from the price of livestock to the latest cotton regulations to foot and mouth disease. An interesting point was brought up in our last discussion. Does the American public realize how often agriculture touches their daily lives?

It's not something we think about every day. You probably don't get up in the morning, put on your clothes, and consider who raised the sheep for your wool pants or who grew the cotton for your shirt. When we get to the breakfast table, we often forget about the corn that was harvested for our morning bowl of cereal or the cows milked for our tall glass of calcium. When our children arrive at school, we seldom think about the school lunch program they are provided each day. Nor do we think about the vaccinations that keep them safe from disease. And when we stop at the grocery store on our way home, how often do we take for granted the high quality of the products we purchase. The produce and meat are fresh, and the aisles packed with availability and variety. Not many countries have this type of luxury.

I make this point because it's important we understand how fortunate we are to have a safe and successful agriculture industry. Agriculture affects so many aspects of our lives. Beyond food and clothing, the agriculture industry accounts for one in every six U.S. jobs. Farmers and ranchers are not the only people working for this huge industry. Agriculture supports your neighbor who works at the clothing production plant, your friend who manages the local grocery store and even your family

pharmacist.

No doubt about it — agriculture fuels our economy. The agriculture industry accounts for two percent of our nation's gross domestic product. It also accounts for \$50 billion in exports each year. Let's not forget that farmers pay incredible sums of money to cover their business expenses. In recent years, farmers paid as much as \$73 billion in purchases and over \$25 billion in employee wages.

When you add up the products, the jobs and the economic advantages you can come to just one conclusion: The agriculture industry is literally the backbone of our country. This was true when the founding fathers met in Philadelphia, it was true during the industrial revolution of the 1800s, and it is still true today.

So the next time you're in the grocery store picking out apples or at a department store selecting a new shirt, think about the time and energy invested in every product you see. We may take these things for granted, but for thousands of people nation-wide these items are truly a necessity of life. Let's be thankful for our agriculture industry and for the men and women who work hard every day to keep it strong.

*Congressman Henry Bonilla is chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. As chairman, Bonilla oversees all of the nation's agriculture funding, the nation's food supply, emergency disaster relief, and farm and ranch programs. Bonilla is in his fifth term as a Congressman from Texas' 23rd district.*

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**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**CITY OF SOCORRO**

The Planning Department and the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Socorro will be conducting two Public Hearings on October 29, 2002 at City Hall at 124 S. Horizon Blvd., and on October 30, 2002 at the Rio Vista Community Center located at 901 Rio Vista Road, Socorro, Texas. The purpose of this public hearing is to allow interested persons to appear and testify at the hearing regarding:

- 1) Ordinance 76, Amendment 1A, establishing comprehensive zoning and land use regulations for the City of Socorro, El Paso County, Texas and its planning and platting jurisdiction; providing for the administration, enforcement, and amendment thereof, in accordance with the provisions of Section 211 of the Texas Local Government Code.

Those that are unable to attend the public hearing may submit their views to the City of Socorro City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro Texas 79927.

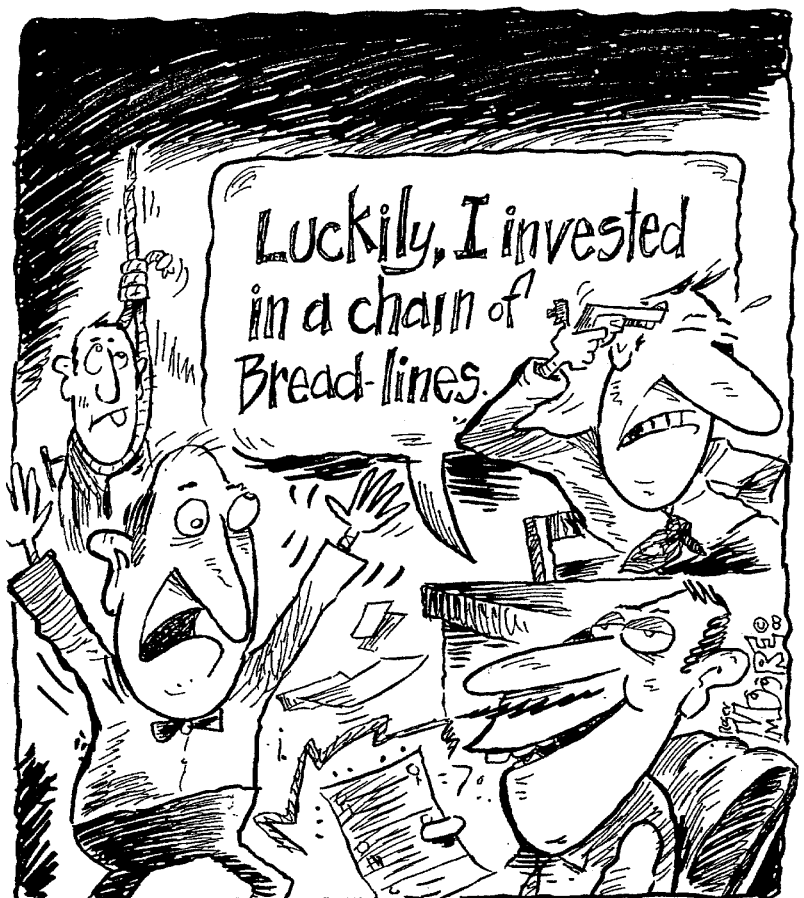
Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available. Persons with disabilities that wish to attend this meeting should contact City Hall to arrange for assistance. Individuals who require auxiliary aids or services for this meeting should contact City hall at least two days before the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The City of Socorro promotes Fair Housing/Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity.

Teresa Rodriguez  
 Interim City Clerk

WTCC: 10/24/02

**True Texas Facts** by Roger T. Moore

Oct. 29, 1929- The Stock Market crashes. The great depression follows.



## Write stuff

### Dear Editor

I do not remember the City of Socorro ever receiving as much news coverage as it has in the past few months. The attention has been mostly negative. These issues came to light after Mayor Irma Sanchez took office.

I find it refreshing that the new administration has the courage to admit that Socorro needs an overhaul. More importantly, Mayor Sanchez has taken the initiative of correcting those problems that have been present in Socorro for the past 16 years.

If Socorro is not overhauled soon, as the Mayor is intent on doing, the very foundation of the City will deteriorate and it will no longer progress. It is easy to blame Mayor

Sanchez for the problems the City is experiencing. The truth is we, the citizenry are to blame for impeding Socorro's progress by not taking an active stance in ensuring that previous administrations kept the City moving forward.

It is interesting to see that a faction has formed trying to remove Mayor Sanchez from office after only five months of being sworn in. I have worked with the Mayor before and it was no secret that we did not agree on several issues. Yet, for as long as I have known the Mayor, I cannot dispute her commitment to trying to make Socorro a better place to live.

Under Mayor Sanchez's leadership, Socorro has the potential of taking its rightful place as one of the most historic cities in Texas.

**Victor Perez  
Socorro**

## Second graders use technology to meet new friends

**By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier**

CANUTILLO — Intra-district communications via audio-visual computer equipment is allowing second grade students at Davenport Elementary School in the Westway community to make new friends with second graders at Childress Elementary School, which is about five miles away in the Town of Vinton.

"I enjoyed talking to the kids and learning to use the computer to see them," said Jeanette Ramirez, a seven year-old second grade student at Davenport Elementary School.

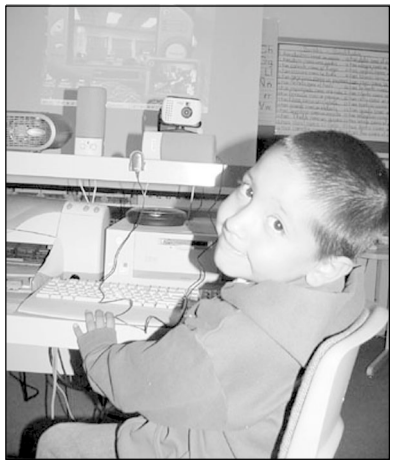
Teachers Jesus Hernandez, Davenport ES second grade teacher, and Patricia Martin, Childress ES second grade teacher, teamed up recently to present a joint lesson using Canutillo

Independent School District's intranet capabilities.

The students, who are in the District's bilingual program, were given an opportunity to introduce themselves as they viewed a projected image of each other on a large screen. Also, every student in Hernandez's class was paired with a second grader in Martin's class so that they can become pen pals and send email messages to each other.

According to Hernandez, the technology lesson is helping his students develop communication skills including reading, writing, and speaking, as well as learning to use computer equipment and software.

"We hope to expand the lesson to be able to communicate with a class in a school in another state and eventually establish contact with students in another country," said Hernandez.



**DEVELOPING CYBERPALS — Davenport and Childress elementary schools' second grade students are learning to use audio-visual computer equipment. Davenport ES second grader Isaiah Limon takes his turn.**

## Improvements at Anthony ISD get a boost from grants funds

**By Don Woodyard  
Courier Staff Writer**

ANTHONY — More than \$2 million in grants and other funds is fueling a physical and technological facelift in the Anthony Independent School District.

A repair and renovation grant of \$967,034 is improving the appear-

ance of the elementary and middle schools, says Ann Geyer, grant writer for AISD. The funding came through the Texas Education Agency and is being used to replace floor and ceiling tile in the middle school and in the older sections of Anthony Elementary. It is also providing for a new fire alarm system that brings the two schools up to state code.

In addition, the funding is going

for new carpeting and painting in the two schools and new roofs as well as new heating and air condition systems.

Work is expected to be completed by Dec. 12.

In addition, the district received a federal E-rate technology grant of \$894,684 this month. With 10 per-

**See ANTHONY ISD, Page 7**

## City of Socorro PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at 6:00 p.m. on November 12, 2002 during the Planning Commission meeting at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comments on the following proposed rezoning(s):

- 1) Lots 33, 34, 35, and 36, Block 9 Friedman Estates, Corner of Passmore and Socorro Rd. from R-1, Single Family Residential to C-1, Light Commercial by AFIC.
- 2) Tracts 8B, 8B1 and 8B2, Block 18 Socorro Grant, Corner of Buford and Nicholas Rd. from A-2 Agricultural to R-3, High Density Residential by Barajas Family.
- 3) Lot 8, Block 1, Mary Lou Park, 10729 Lydia Rd., from R-1, Single Family Residential to C-1, Light Commercial by Osvaldo and Elizabeth Carrasco.
- 4) Lot 3, Block 3 Country Green, 10259 North Loop from C-1, Light Commercial to C-2, General Commercial by Ernesto Sanchez.

*TERE RODRIGUEZ  
Interim City Clerk*

WTCC: 10/24/02

## Socorro ISD recognizes media partners

HORIZON CITY — The Socorro ISD Communications Services Department presented awards to area radio, television and print journalism on Oct. 18 as part of the Texas Association of School Boards' Media Honor Roll program. Pifas Silva, representing KVIA-TV Channel 7, is shown receiving an award from Socorro ISD Communications Director Minerva Bauman. Other media honored included the *Courier*, the *El Paso Times*, KINT-TV Channel 26, KDBC-TV Channel 4, KTSM-TV Channel 9, KFOX-TV Channel 14, KTSM-AM/FM, and Time-Warner Cable TV.



## Classified Ads

### LEGALS

#### Southern Union Gas Company PUBLIC NOTICE

Southern Union Gas Company (the "Company") hereby gives NOTICE that it filed a Statement of Intent on October 10, 2002 to implement a new schedule of natural gas service rates for approximately 9,874 residential, 356 commercial, 4 industrial, 46 public authority and 1 municipal water pumping customers within the Towns of Anthony, Clint, and Horizon City, the City of Socorro and the Village of Vinton, Texas.

On September 24, 2002, the City of El Paso approved a revenue increase of \$1,918,230, which represents a 1.72 percent increase in the Company's total adjusted revenues in its El Paso Service Area. While the requested revenue increase is derived for the entire service area, the annual revenue increase for the municipalities of Anthony, Clint, Horizon

City, Socorro and Vinton would be approximately \$217,802, which represents a 1.97 percent increase. The rates that the Company is proposing are identical to those approved by the City of El Paso on September 24, 2002. The Company is asking that the rates for the municipalities of Anthony, Clint, Horizon City, Socorro and Vinton become effective on November 21, 2002. The proposed change does not constitute a "major change" as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code.

Based on the proposed rate design, the municipalities of Anthony, Clint, Horizon City, Socorro and Vinton average residential bill of 43 Ccf will increase by approximately \$1.36, or 4.7 percent, while the average residential January bill of 109 Ccf will decrease by approximately \$3.67, or 5.6 percent. The Company's last rate case in the municipalities of Anthony, Clint, Horizon City, Socorro and Vinton oc-

curred in 1998. Since then, consumer prices generally have increased by approximately 10 percent on the national level.

A complete copy of the Statement of Intent is available for inspection in the municipalities' offices and in the Company's business office located at 4600 Pollard Street, El Paso, Texas 79930. WTCC-10/17, 10/24, 10/31 & 11/07/02

**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:

**LIBRARY PERIODICAL SERVICES  
CSP NO.199-1101-0307  
FRIDAY, NOV. 01, 2002  
2:30 P.M.**

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300

Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. WTCC-10/24/02

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

MARKET EXCLUSIVE LINE OF GLYCONUTRITIONALS  
Newest breakthrough in optimal health and longevity.  
TOP COMMISSIONS plus bonuses and incentives.  
Work in teams  
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915-852-9001  
915-852-2156  
10/17-24

### FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITY

ATTENTION VETERANS:  
Mortgage 7.5% or higher?  
You may be eligible for

5.5 to 6%.  
No credit check, no appraisal, no hassle. Application completed at home. Information:  
Neil Jones  
Amerigroup Mortgage Corporation  
Rated #1 by VA  
915-494-3660  
Member American Legion Post 598  
10/10-10/31

### GARAGE SALES

YARD SALE: Saturday, Oct. 26, 12500 North Loop (farm near Clint). Miscellaneous items.

### REAL ESTATE

1/4-acre lot for sale in Horizon View Estates, by owner. Corner located in Main Street, all services available. Financing by owner or bank. 309-4388 or 858-1130. 10/10-10/31

### RENTALS

TWO BEDROOM HOUSE for rent in Clint.

References required. Call Frank Macias. 851-2007 or 588-0968. Will become available Nov. 1, 2002. 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.

*Alcoholicos Anónimos Grupo Paso Del Norte sesiones lunes a sabado, a 8-9 de la tarde, 8501 Kingsway, Westway. 886-4948 para informacion.*

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous Group 8 de Enero meets at 15360 Horizon Blvd. in Horizon City on Mondays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. Call 859-0484 for information.

*Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una*

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

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## Clint dairy farm hosts Bonilla

About 80 people gathered at the Bos Dairy Farm in Clint on Tuesday to support Rep. Henry Bonilla in his bid for reelection and to hear updates on agriculture and other issues. In introducing Bonilla, Bill Lovelady said the representative had been successful in championing a cause that produced some \$6 million to breed and raise sterile moths which will eliminate "pink" boll worms, the most devastating pest faced by cotton farmers in Texas. Bonilla, who is chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee with oversight all of the nation's agriculture funding, the nation's food supply, emergency disaster relief, and farm and ranch programs, is in his fifth term as Congressman for the 23rd district. He was treated to a tour of the dairy following the event. Serving a district that spans two time zones and is made up of 65 percent minority has specific challenges, Bonilla said. "I'm here today to ask for your vote," he said. "I'll serve as long as you'll have me. This is an important year — we have several important races and mine happens to be one of them." Above, Bonilla stands with Brad Bouma of Desert View Dairy, who co-sponsored the event.

## Socorro

From Page 1

permit impacts urbanized areas with populations over 10,000 people and which have at least 1,000 people living within a square mile.

There were also two public hearings held. The first hearing was for Ordinance 76, Amendment 1A, as required by the Planning and Capacity Building Fund Grant No. 721174. The ordinance establishes comprehensive zoning and land use regulations for the City of Socorro, and its planning and platting jurisdiction; providing for the administration, enforcement, and amendment thereof, in accordance with the provisions of Section 211 of the Texas Local Government Code.

The second hearing regarded the completion of Office of Rural Community Affairs Community Development Program Grant Contract No. 721751 Street Improvements Project.

There was no public input for either hearing.

Bids for the City of Socorro Street Improvement Project were opened by City Attorney Dominguez and tabled by City Council to allow for thorough ex-

amination of each bid.

The second reading of Ordinance 76, Amendment 1A, as required by

the planning and Capacity Fund Grant No. 721174 was approved by Council.

## PUBLIC MEETING

The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) of the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will hold a **PUBLIC MEETING on FRIDAY, October 25, 2002, at 9:00 A.M., at Ardivino's Desert Crossing, 1 Ardivino Drive, Sunland Park, NM, 88063**, to discuss the following agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes.
2. TxDOT El Paso District Annual Report FY 2002.
3. Discussion and Action to Accept the Recommendations of the Executive Committee on the Following Items:
  - a. Status Report on the RFP for New MPO Office Space;
  - b. To Hire Legal Counsel for the MPO Transportation Policy Board;
  - c. To Determine When MPO Items (budgets, contracts etc.) will be presented to the Transportation Policy Board and the El Paso City Council for Review and Approval;
  - d. To Require Consultants make Oral Presentations to the Executive Committee for the Camino Real Border Improvement Plan.
4. Discussion and Action to Amend the 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the 2002-2006 Transportation Improvement Program:
  - a. To use \$412,725 CMAQ Funds (NM Funds) to establish and operate a Public Transportation System in the City of Sunland Park, NM in FY 2003;
  - b. To amend the Unified Planning Work Program FY 2003 to use \$427,158.82 of STP 4C funds (NM funds) to hire a consultant to prepare a Presidential Permit Application for the Proposed Sunland Park Port of Entry, NM in FY 2003;
  - c. To use \$3,750,000 of STP 4C funds to construct the Great Streets Project on the Mesa, Montana, and Alameda Corridors in FY 2003 and 2004;
  - d. To use \$3,569,000 of CMAQ funds to construct an International Transit Terminal in FY 2003, 2004, and 2005;
  - e. To use \$304,514 of STP (4C) funds to provide Safety Lighting on FM 1110 Clint cutoff through the Town of Clint in FY 2003;
  - f. To use \$225,531 of STP (4C) funds to provide Safety Lighting on SH 20 Alameda Ave. through the City of Clint in FY 2003;
  - g. To use \$945,652 of STP (4C) funds to provide Safety Lighting on FM 76 North Loop Rd. through the City of Socorro in FY 2003;
  - h. To use \$736,357 of STP (4C) funds to provide Safety Lighting on FM 258 Socorro Rd. through the City of Socorro in FY 2003;
  - i. To use \$690,939 of STP (4C) funds to provide Safety Lighting on SH 20 Alameda Ave. through the City of Socorro in FY 2003;
  - j. To submit this project for Priority 2 funding and use \$2,000,000 of CMAQ funds to implement Traffic Light Synchronization – Phase 6 for the Alameda System in FY 2004.
5. Discussion and Action to Amend the 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the 2002-2006 Transportation Improvement Program:
  - a. To move Project R020X Paisano Drive, CSJ: 0001-04-073 into FY 2003 from FY 2007 to Install Concrete Pavement from Santa Fe St. to Campbell St.;
  - b. To increase funding on Project I007A-05A, IH-10 Americas Ave. (Loop 375) Phase I by \$9,000,000 for a total project cost of \$19,000,000 and move from FY 2004 to FY 2003.
6. Director's Report:
  - a. Metropolitan Capacity Building meeting between El Paso MPO/San Diego Association of Government (SANDAG);
  - b. Federal Certification Review Report.

Under federal legislation, the MPO, through the TPB has an expanded role in transportation project selection and programming in El Paso County and the City of Sunland Park, New Mexico. For more information call the MPO Office at (915) 591-9735.

WTCC: 10/24/02

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC MEETING FOR: AMENDED DOCUMENTS

### 2025 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, 2002-2006 TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY DETERMINATION AND

### NEW DOCUMENTS

### Sun Metro Long Range Plan SUN METRO AREA RAPID TRANSIT (SMART) STARTER LINE

The El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is conducting a series of public meetings to receive comments on the draft amendments to:

- 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
- 2002-2006 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- Transportation Conformity Determination documents
- Sun Metro Long Range Plan
- Sun Metro Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Starter Line

The public comment period is open for 30 days beginning on **October 22, 2002** and ending on **November 20, 2002**.

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a short-range program of capital improvements for highways, bridges, and transit projects for the El Paso region for the fiscal years 2002-2006. These projects are recommended for construction by each fiscal year.

The Transportation Conformity Determination demonstrates how the MPO meets EPA's requirement for reduction of ozone, CO and PM-10 for the El Paso County nonattainment area, and for reduction of ozone for the southern Doña Ana County nonattainment area.

The draft MTP, TIP amendments and Conformity Determination will be available for public review for 30 days, **from October 22, 2002 thru November 20, 2002** at the MPO office, 10767 Gateway Blvd. West, Suite 605, El Paso, TX 79935; at the Texas Department of Transportation, 13301 Gateway West; at Sun Metro Office, 700-A San Antonio, and at all public libraries (call the MPO office at [915] 591-9735 x 16 for locations).

**Public meetings and open house is scheduled for November 5, 6, 7, 2002. Specific locations and times will be published in the Borderland Section of the El Paso Times, on Sunday, October 27, 2002. For more information, contact the MPO office.**

Translation services will be available for oral presentations and comments.

Interested citizens are encouraged to review the draft 2025 MTP, 2002-2006 TIP and the air quality conformity document during this public comment period. **Written comments must be received at the MPO office by 4:00 p.m., November 20, 2002 and may be mailed or faxed to:**

Roy Gilyard, Executive Director  
Mail: 10767 Gateway Blvd. West, Suite 605,  
El Paso, TX 79935  
Fax: (915) 591-7296

The Transportation Policy Board will review public comments received and approve the documents at its meeting of November 23, 2002.

WTCC: 10/24/02



# The greatest thing since sliced bread?

By Don Flood

Has anyone else noticed the alarming increase in near misses by asteroids?

You'll be watching TV and they'll flash a news bulletin across the bottom:

*A giant asteroid might destroy the earth at 9 a.m. Tuesday. All library books must be returned before that date.*

This is very disturbing, especially if you can't remember where all your library books are. (On the plus side, you might get out of paying your fines.)

But — and this is absolutely true — a scientist has proposed a solution: a giant air bag, similar to a car's except the Earth has no steering-wheel column or side panels in which to store the device.

Someone, presumably Bruce Willis or Vin Diesel or myself, if necessary, would have to take the air bag into outer space.

Just as in a car, children of less than 80 pounds would be required to sit in the back of the planet.

But my real concern today is, do we as a species — and that would most likely include you, dear reader — have what it takes to

withstand an extraterrestrial onslaught, with or without an air bag?

You have no doubt read about how officials are starting to remove from schools such all-American games as "Tag" and "Dodge Ball."

Too rough, they say. Too damaging to children's self-esteem.

How soft can we get?

Answer: Pretty soft, because we are removing something else from our children's lives: bread crust!

Yes, it is now possible to buy bread that has been *de-crusted!*

And you know what that means, don't you?

*(Editor's note: It means the writer is ready for a full-fledged rant.)*

It's the end of American sandwich-eating civilization as we know it! *(Editor's note: See?)*

Great Americans have always eaten the crust. Washington devoured the crust on his PB&Js; Lincoln scarfed down his fried banana creations. (Or was that Elvis?)

It was expected. It built character.

In my day, after I milked the cows, cleaned out the barns and mended the fencing, I was thankful to sit down to a meal that included bread crust.

*(Editor's note: The writer has now reached the hallucinatory stage of his*

*rant. He knows as much about farm chores as the average milk cow knows about quantum mechanics.)*

And here's the galling part. The bread actually comes under the brand name IronKids.

That's right. Not SoftKids or FlabKids or SpoiledKids, but IronKids.

(The bread contains extra calcium and fiber but, oddly enough, no iron.)

The bread bag pictures one kid with a basketball and the other on a skateboard, but, really, if there were a Truth in Product Pictures Law you'd show kids:

- Watching TV
- Playing video games
- Asking parents for money

These pictures would be accompanied by realistic slogans:

*Gives kids the energy to whine, "There's nothing to do!"*

*Calcium-fortified bread helps build the strong bones kids need to play on the computer!*

But don't expect me to help get this law passed. I'm busy enough deflecting that asteroid.

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## Paint

From Page 1

facilitates the PAL club. One of the goals of this national program is to promote community service.

"Our primary focus is to instill in these students the need to help others, serve the community and be a strong part of the community," Amato said.

The PAL club also strives to link

new students from Mexico or "new-comers" with "non-newcomer" students who are more socially established at the campus. The Paintathon served as the perfect activity for PAL club members, an idea that came from the "newcomer" students.

"It came from the students who wanted to do community service," said Middle School principal John Tanner. "Ms. Amato just jumped in there to make sure the kids would be able to do it."

## Dog

From Page 2

take-this-like-a-man kind of look.

So I'm back to talking to the boxer while I hang out clothes or am otherwise occupied in the back yard, and she is back on the chain to keep her valuable self out of the neighbor's garbage can.

For a person who doesn't like dogs, my life sure seems to get mixed up with them. Some people

put up a dog-run in their backyards. We built a people-run so the dogs could have more room. I wind up getting wet, dirty, and slobbered on more often than I care to admit. The smell of dogfood being mixed in the morning really turns my stomach.

So I've sworn off dogs again. I really don't need this. No more foster homes for strays — let somebody else deal with it. That's a relief.

But somehow, I still feel about as sorrowful as that boxer's face looks.

## Anthony ISD

From Page 4

cent matching money from the district, the total funding is \$984,152. It will bring infrastructure improvements, speeding up access to the Internet with a new T-Line and 11 new servers.

"It will broaden our band," Geyer says. The funds will also allow for a wireless system whereby computers can be used without physically being plugged into a wall outlet.

Other changes are coming, but they are not funded through grants.

- The athletic department is ben-

efiting from the facelift. Construction started Oct. 21 on a new quarter-mile regulation track that is replacing the old dirt one around the football field. The track renovation will also provide for field events such as high jump, pole vault and discus throw. Total cost is \$82,000 in district funding.

• The district has a new school board and community meeting room in the building which once housed the cafeteria, Geyer said. The renovation was completed the middle of October. The school board, which formerly met in the old high school library, held its first meeting in its new facility Oct. 15.

## Disabled

From Page 8

a severe impairment.

Vocational Rehabilitation: The National Organization on Disability estimates that about three-fourths of people with disabilities would rather work, given the opportunity. But less than one percent of people who receive disability benefits actually return to work. In an age of expanding opportunities for people with disabilities, more needs to be done.

One goal of Disability Employment Awareness Month in October of each year is to make people with disabilities more aware of the employment support opportunities open to them. New Social Security disability programs and policies let people with disabilities try to return to work at their own pace, knowing that a failed attempt does not mean loss of

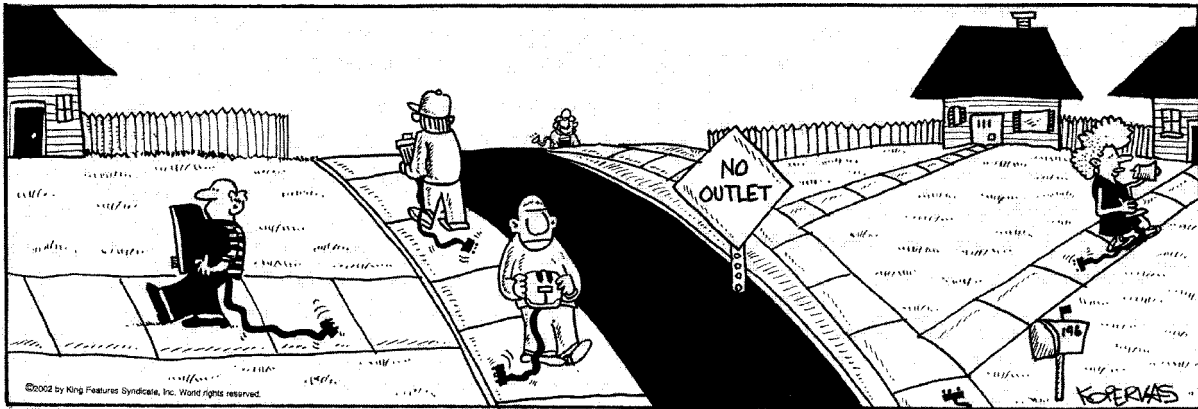
benefits.

In particular, our "Ticket to Work" program helps beneficiaries find training, rehabilitation services, job referrals and other employment support from a "provider" of their choice. This program is being gradually put into effect nationwide, and the first 13 states began participating in the program in February. As of November, the Ticket to Work program will be available in an additional 20 states and the District of Columbia, and it will be available in all states by the end of 2003.

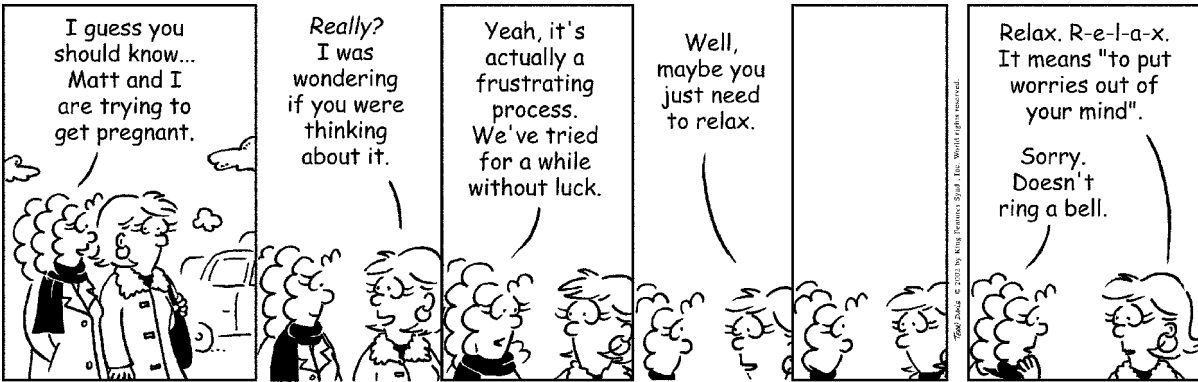
For more information log onto our website, <http://www.ssa.gov>, call our toll-free number at 1-800-772-1213 or visit your local Social Security office. If you have any questions that you would like to have answered, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 1111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil,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

## 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



### Phamiliar phrases "get your back up"

If you express anger or outrage, someone might say that you "have your back up." This refers to the stance a cat takes when it is threatened or aggressive - its back curved very high, hair standing on end, trying to look as large and imposing as it can.



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# Social Security: Q & A By Ray Vigil

## Workers can count on social security if they become disabled

EL PASO COUNTY — October is Disability Employment Awareness Month. Many Americans without disabilities may think this observance doesn't really concern them, but they're wrong. "The truth is that lives can change in the blink of an eye, and we never know what may lie ahead. I see this every day when people come into our office to file for disability benefits.

person has a one-in-five chance of becoming disabled before age 65. But it's something we tend not to think about — until it happens.

If you should become disabled, would you have income to see you and your family through a long-term disability? Would you have the contacts and resources to retrain for a new career if you wanted to try going back to work? The truth is that most workers do not have private dis-

ability insurance — but nearly all have Social Security. And here's what we provide.

Cash: The Social Security disability program pays about \$815 a month to an average wage earner who becomes disabled. An average wage earner with a spouse and two children who becomes disabled would receive about \$1,360 a month from Social Security.

The needs-based Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, which is administered by Social Security but which is paid from general revenues, pays about \$545 a month to eligible people who are disabled.

Medical insurance: After two years of receiving disability payments, ben-

eficiaries can qualify for Medicare coverage. Most people with disabilities who work will continue to receive a little more than seven years of hospital and medical insurance under Medicare, with no premium for the hospital insurance. After premium-free Medicare coverage ends due to work, some people can buy continued Medicare coverage, as long as they remain medically disabled.

For SSI beneficiaries, Medicaid coverage can continue even if their earnings become too high to get an SSI cash payment. And some states may provide Medicaid to workers who lose that coverage due to medical improvement, but who still have

See **DISABLED**, Page 7

### Horizon City Community Chapel

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

Mr. Dean Pinney, Pastor

### Spanish Services

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

Mr. Pablo Gonzalez, Assoc. Pastor

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# WEATHER

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## SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
▲ 74°	▼ 46°	▲ 72° ▼ 48°	▲ 72° ▼ 50°	▲ 70° ▼ 46°	▲ 70° ▼ 44°	▲ 72° ▼ 44°	▲ 74° ▼ 46°

### UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	6	Moderate
Friday	6	Moderate
Saturday	5	Moderate
Sunday	5	Moderate
Monday	6	Moderate
Tuesday	6	Moderate
Wednesday	6	Moderate

### REAL FEEL TEMP™

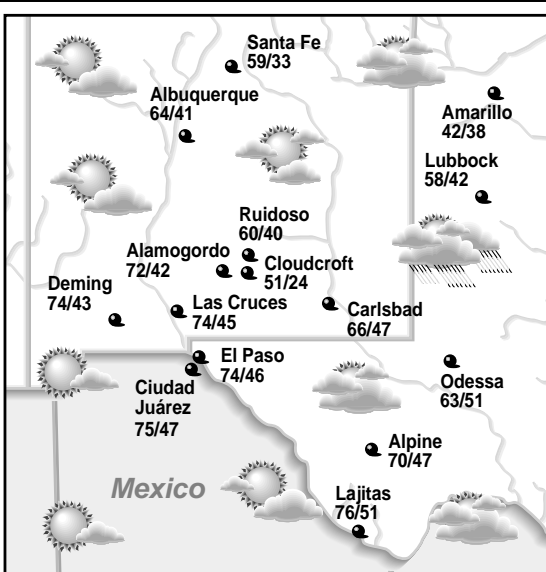
The exclusive AccuWeather composite of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

Thursday	75°
Friday	62°
Saturday	60°
Sunday	60°
Monday	69°
Tuesday	72°
Wednesday	66°

### TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	75	48
Canutillo	76	49
Clint	74	49
E. Montana	74	46
Fabens	74	49
Horizon	76	49
San Elizario	73	46
Socorro	74	46
Tornillo	74	49
Vinton	76	49

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	64/41/pc	63/42/pc	60/42/pc	60/39/pc	64/42/s
Atlanta	59/57/r	66/54/c	66/49/pc	64/47/pc	61/46/r
Atlantic City	58/44/pc	58/46/c	62/42/c	58/40/s	57/29/pc
Austin/San Antonio	73/60/t	71/55/pc	70/57/sh	71/56/t	70/49/pc
Baltimore	54/44/pc	54/48/c	59/39/c	57/36/pc	58/31/pc
Boston	52/40/s	52/42/pc	54/40/c	55/40/s	53/32/pc
Chicago	48/38/c	52/38/c	52/35/pc	48/32/pc	46/26/s
Dallas/Ft. Worth	64/54/r	66/53/pc	68/54/c	63/52/t	63/40/pc
Denver	44/28/pc	56/30/pc	54/34/pc	42/29/c	47/34/c
Flagstaff	55/26/s	57/34/s	54/34/pc	51/28/c	49/23/r
Houston	80/62/t	74/60/sh	74/58/sh	72/62/t	72/50/pc
Kansas City	46/38/c	54/40/pc	56/42/pc	48/34/r	47/32/c
Las Vegas	74/50/s	72/52/pc	72/52/pc	70/52/pc	68/46/sh
Miami	86/75/pc	87/74/pc	87/75/pc	87/74/pc	87/75/pc
Minneapolis	44/26/c	46/28/pc	44/28/pc	42/28/pc	40/21/pc
New Orleans	82/66/t	79/63/t	75/60/pc	78/62/r	75/58/r
New York City	54/44/pc	54/46/c	54/42/c	56/46/s	56/42/s
Philadelphia	56/44/pc	54/48/c	56/40/c	56/38/pc	57/31/pc
Phoenix	82/58/s	80/58/s	80/56/pc	77/56/pc	72/48/c
Portland	64/38/s	60/42/pc	58/42/c	60/42/c	58/36/s
San Francisco	62/54/pc	63/52/c	65/52/pc	66/52/pc	67/45/s
Seattle	60/42/s	56/44/pc	56/46/c	56/41/pc	54/36/s
Tucson	78/54/s	80/53/s	78/50/pc	78/52/pc	70/43/pc
Washington, DC	55/46/c	58/48/c	63/42/c	59/40/s	58/35/pc

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

### AGRICULTURE

There will be 5-7 hours of sunshine Thursday and Friday with highs in the lower 70s. Drying conditions will be good to very good both days. A moist southeast flow will lead to more cloudiness and the chance for a shower or thunderstorm this weekend. However, any rainfall will be light and spotty. Mainly dry early next week.

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

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