

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

VOL. 29, No. 46

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

NOVEMBER 14, 2002

NEWSBRIEFS

Courier move

The *West Texas County Courier* has evacuated the 13899 Horizon Blvd. office for renovation, and is temporarily re-located to the corporate office address at 15344 Werling Court in Horizon City Manor until other suitable office space is located. The telephone and fax numbers remain the same. Anyone having difficulty finding the location is encouraged to call for directions at 852-3235. Apologies are extended for any inconvenience this may cause. Additionally, the Courier office will be closed from Wednesday, Nov. 13-15, and will reopen on Monday, Nov. 18.

Gas rate increase

Southern Union Gas Co. customers can expect higher heating bills over the next few months as compared to last year, according to a SUG announcement Monday. The 16 percent increase, short of the 19 percent predicted by the Federal Dept. of Energy, is due to colder weather predictions and tensions in the Middle East, said David Stevens, SUG president. For November, the price will be 41 cents per hundred cubic feet. Stevens said SUG continues to urge customers to join the ABC plan which levels out winter gas bills over 12 months, and to take steps to weatherize homes and conserve energy. He said customers can sign up by logging on at www.sugas.com or calling SUG.

Program honored

Alfonso Borrego Sr. Elementary has been recognized by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for successfully educating its migrant students. TEA's Division of Migrant Education has selected Alfonso Borrego Sr. Elementary as a winner of the 2002 Recognized Campus Award given to school districts and campuses that had high TAAS passing rates among their migrant students. Statewide, 111 school districts and 280 campuses are receiving this recognition. The purpose of the award is to recognize school districts and campuses that strive to meet the unique needs of migrant children and their families and that help migrant students meet high academic standards. There are an estimated 132,000 migrant students in Texas.

In other news

■ The Socorro ISD board of trustees met Nov. 6, hiring Ray & Associates, Inc. to perform the search for the district's next superintendent. The search firm is based in Iowa and was one of five that gave presentations to the board last week. The firm has 25 years experience and searches on a state, regional and national basis via 70 associates nationwide, a district spokesman said.

■ Local author Julia L. Hambric will be
See BRIEFS, Page 7

It is a grand person indeed who can laugh at himself with others and enjoy it as much as they do.

— Quips and Quotes

Elementary schools honor veterans



HONORED GUESTS FOR VETS DAY — Childress Elementary School held its annual Veterans Day Ceremony to honor community veterans. Shown from left, Veterans Sam Lara, Johnny Holguin, Louie Ortega, Manuel Velasco, Ruben Ramos, and Canutillo ISD Superintendent Charles Hart, were among the honored guests.

— Contributed by Alfredo Vasquez



RUBBING SHOULDERS WITH LEGENDS — Hundreds of Benito Martinez Elementary School Students marched with soldiers and Montwood High School band and flag corps members during the school's 12th annual Veterans' Day Parade Nov. 7. Above, the crowd was entertained with a song by Shelby Acosta honoring veterans of World War II, the Korean and Viet Nam wars. She is a 4th grade student at Benito Martinez Elementary School.

\$75 million in grants available to improve economic picture for rural communities

WASHINGTON - Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman has announced more than \$75 million for economic development, energy and infrastructure projects to help spur investment and create new jobs in rural communities throughout the United States.

"These grants will bring new economic opportunities and job creation for rural America," said Veneman. "The Bush administration continues to increase investment in health care, education, value-added processing and rural infrastructure which is providing renewed growth to these important sectors of our economy."

The Rural Business-Cooperative Service Value-Added Agricultural Product Market Development grants announced today support two of President Bush's pillar initiatives: economic growth and energy. These 231 grants in 43 states total over \$37 million and will fund a variety of agricultural ventures such as renewable energy, agri-marketing, high-value products from major crops and commodities. These 35 projects total more than \$7.2 million and

will foster development of alternative energy sources. Recipients are required to obtain matching funds which will double the impact of the USDA grants. Funding of individual recipients is contingent upon meeting the conditions of the grant agreement. For information on applying for 2003 value-added grants visit: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm>.

The Rural Utilities Service Distance Learning and Telemedicine grants will fund 71 recipients totaling more than \$27 million for education and medical service in 33 states. The award of these grants will bring to rural communities access to better, faster and more modern health care, and students in rural areas will receive better equipment and learning tools and access to courses that would otherwise be unavailable. These grants help invest in infrastructure projects that assist rural communities with communications and medical services. A complete list of 2002 recipients can be found at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/dlt/awards.htm>. For information on applying for

2003 grants please visit <http://www.usda.gov/rus/telecom/dlt/dlt.htm>.

The Rural Housing Service Community Facilities Program's Rural Community Development Initiative will fund 41 proposals in 22 states and the District of Columbia totaling nearly \$12 million. Grants will help private and nonprofit community-based development organizations and low-income communities improve their ability to develop rural housing and community facilities.

These projects will help create jobs and economic investment in rural areas through direct investment and housing availability. Recipients are required to obtain matching funds which will double the impact of the USDA grants. Funding of individual recipients will be contingent upon meeting the conditions of the grant agreement. For information on 2003 funding availability and applications please visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/rcdi/index.htm>.

"These grant programs are important to

See GRANTS, Page 6

Campestre Elementary celebrates 20 years

SOCORRO — Socorro ISD's Campestre Elementary School was the easternmost of the District's campuses when it was built 20 years ago and dedicated Nov. 3, 1982. And it still is, says current Director of



COLORFUL CAMPESTRE HISTORY — These kinder kids illustrated a colorful history lesson while celebrating the 20th anniversary of their school.

Risk Management, Arturo Olivas, who was the school's first principal. Today's Director of Administrative Services, Lorenzo Nieto, was assistant principal of the campus in 1982.

The school celebrated the anniversary Oct. 31 with a colorful, south-bound parade along Passmore Street. The procession included police and fire vehicles from the City of Socorro, towed trailers carrying hay bales and most of Campestre's 729 students.

Many of the children were dressed in their Halloween costumes. Drummers from the Socorro High School Bulldog Band set the beat.

During a reception which followed the parade, current and former administrators renewed their friendships and danced to live music.

Campestre school opened with 860 students in 1982. Olivas says being principal of the Cobras was one of his most enjoyable experiences in education.

"Between 1982 and 1989, we won about seven or eight University Interscholastic League contests, first place awards, and Campestre took pride in those awards. We had to work extra hard because of the type of kids we had and (Campestre) still (has) them. Ninety-nine percent Hispanic and low income, and we knew we had to work harder to compete with the other schools," he says, adding that subsequent principals David Solis, Carmen Moran, and Helen Tornatta have continued to work toward those goals.

But other things have changed since then — when Campestre opened, Socorro ISD had only six campuses serving 17,000 students. Measure that against today's 30 schools — plus four under construction — and the current student population of 30,103 students, only 20 years later.



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

A glittering bill of goods

"Excuse me, miss, you've made a mistake. You charged me twice for this gallon of milk."

"Oh, no, that's no mistake. That's our new policy. You see, the farmers are having a hard time with their new milking machines. Most of the time they waste the first gallon. So we're helping them out by charging you twice so they don't lose money."

Boy, would the average consumer hit the roof! Who do these folks think they are? Charging me twice for a product just because they can't get it right the first time!

Well, the afore-described scenario isn't all that far-fetched. It happens everyday in colleges and universities from sea to shining sea.

We are paying twice to educate kids who don't do their work in high school and must be given remediation classes when they get to college. In fact, some kids who can't even read the newspaper are being accepted into universities so we can teach them how.

Somehow this does not compute. According to John Cloud, writing in an October issue of Time magazine, 600,000 freshmen in U.S. colleges — about 29 percent of the total — need at least one remedial course before they are up to snuff.

Some high schools have recently started presenting a program called "Make High School Count." Now I've not attended one of these programs so I can't say first hand how effective they are or attest to their content, but I understand they are highly rated by counselors, and I have to say, the idea makes a lot of sense.

I don't buy the idea that kids who slough off their high school years must be admitted into higher level universities or else they won't pursue higher education at all.

I think that's cold baloney on a

stale piece of Wonder bread. Either you want your education badly enough to do what it takes to get it, or you don't.

One fellow quoted by Cloud in the Times article cautioned that if universities begin charging for remedial classes (horrified gasp from the audience) or sending these students to junior college for remediation (equally horrified gasp sucks all remaining oxygen from the atmosphere) that they will be "demoralized" and it will "take some of their pride."

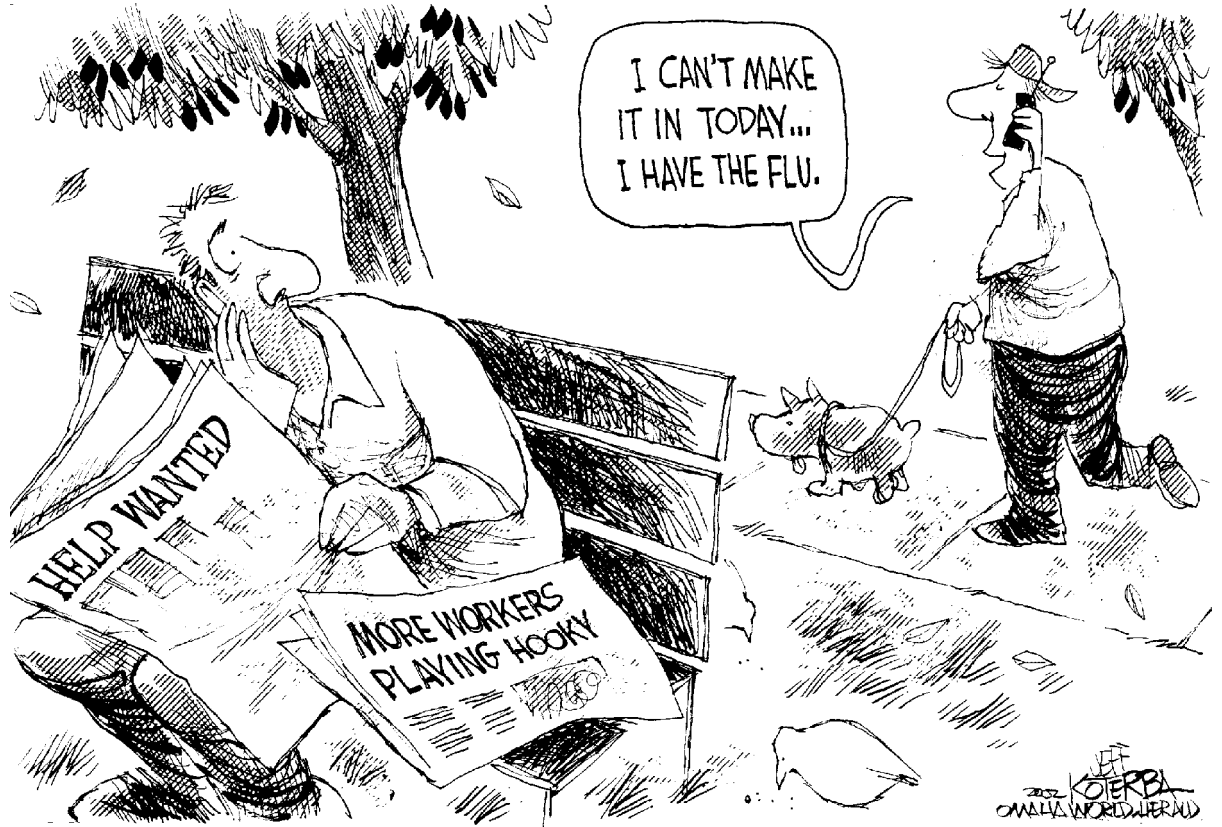
May I respectfully submit that too much pride is a big part of the problem in the first place? If a little of it goes by the wayside, both the students and the educational establishment will be better off.

I also don't buy the idea that the reason some kids wind up needing remedial classes is because they are in some way "disadvantaged." Maybe this is true for some but I could personally name you a whole trailer-load of kids who had all kinds of support and opportunity in high school but just didn't want to put out the effort. Ditching class to smoke in the bathroom or hanging out down by the railroad tracks is a whole lot more interesting and not half the effort.

There is also a sad truth that thousands of dollars in grant assistance is given to remedial students every year for classes which they find are still just as dull and boring as they were in high school and still aren't going to put out the effort.

Before the 60s-born farce that giving everyone a college degree was somehow going to solve all our social woes, there was a time when people actually thought that learning

See GLITTER, Page 4



KEVIN IERS THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER ©2002



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

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

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Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

CLASSIFIED RATES
\$5 for 15 words, \$10 for 35 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The *Courier* reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

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

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

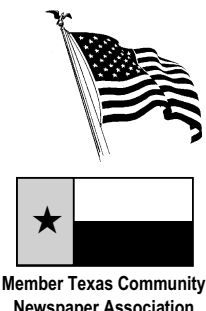
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For Sanity's Sake

By Taprina Milburn

Parenting advice?

A friend is expecting her first baby, and she's asked for bits of advice on parenting. I'm laughing as I type that sentence.

It's not that I don't know anything about parenting — I've been one for almost 10 years. I know how to trick my kids into eating their vegetables by hiding grated carrots in muffins or spinach in casseroles, and I used to know how to pace a floor, jostling a colicky baby "just so" until he fell asleep.

What my friend really wants to hear is the edited, easy-as-pie version of my parenthood experience. This is her first baby, after all. Remember those blissful, naive days?

She wants to know how to make this precious baby-on-the-way be a by-the-book baby — a good sleeper, content and one that seldom cries, and if it isn't too much to ask, one that doesn't mess up the house and who will always call her blessed. Didn't we all order children like that?

I'd love to give her nice and tidy parenting advice, but she'll have to solicit other friends for that. My stories are jelly smudged, full of detours and are anything but by-the-book.

Regardless, here's my rough draft of the pointers I'll share with her.

- Once the child is five, you may begin to get eight hours of sleep again. Until then, learn to power nap (a good multi-vitamin might help, too).
- The parenting books will be of use, most likely, with your first baby. They will make you feel stupid with your second child. Throw them out (not the baby, the books).
- If a well-meaning friend tells you to wake a sleeping baby every two hours for a feeding (if your baby is a healthy, nourished baby, that is), put your fingers in your ears and sing "Lalalalalalalalalala." It goes against common sense to wake a sleeping baby.

- You will find yourself applauding things you never dreamed you'd applaud — the removal of foreign objects lodged in your child's nose or ears and the passing of such things as pennies and purple dental floss your angel has swallowed.

- Toddlers use pet doors as escape exits.

- Yes, someday your breasts and hips will belong to you again. During your childbearing years, however, think of them as "on loan" to a nursing baby or a child who hasn't yet learned to walk.

- Yes, your love life will return. It will coincide with the time your children return your breasts and hips to you or when the child is five and you begin getting eight hours of sleep again.

- To prepare for those days, put a lock on your bedroom door.

- On days when you feel you've been pushed and pulled by the demands of mothering, go into the bathroom (put a lock on that door, too) and claim "sanctuary." Take a hot bath and try to relax as your little ones bang on the door.

- You should also call your momma or a best friend to have a good cry now and then. Shedding all those built-up-tension tears gives you more room for happy tears when your 3-year-old tells you he wants to marry you or when the children do amazing things, such as making it through a church service without needing a potty break.

- Clear your shelves and walls of the things you collected before you had children. You'll be well-supplied with plaster of Paris creations and finger-paint art crafted by your very own artists-in-residence. (P.S. Don't ever let your child catch you throwing any of his stuff away. It's an ugly and traumatic scene.)

I think I'll end by telling her that although things will never be the same after she welcomes baby — sleep's not that big of a deal, after all — her heart will never be as full, nor will her laundry basket, as it is during the years her life is anything but neat and tidy.



Bonilla retains congressional seat

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Top GOP leaders in Texas and Washington say U. S. Rep. Henry Bonilla played a pivotal role in Texas' election day sweep.

Bonilla was Chairman of Texas Victory 2002, the state's GOP get out the vote effort, which broke records on several fronts. In this effort more than 420,000 Republicans were registered to vote.

Texas Victory 2002 was a multimillion-dollar project supported by the White House, the Republican National Committee, Gov. Rick Perry, senator-elect John Cornyn and David Dewhurst. In addition, Presidential adviser Karen Hughes, Commerce Secretary Don Evans and Karl Rove made appearances at fund raising events. On election eve in Texas President George W. Bush publicly recognized Bonilla for his leadership in Victory 2002.

"The 'Get Out The Vote' effort in Texas was historic — and Henry Bonilla led the charge," said Karl Rove, Senior Advisor to President George W. Bush. "The state of Texas and the Republican Party are lucky to have Congressman Bonilla. I know President Bush is thankful for his strong leadership and looks forward to having his close friend back in Congress."

Bonilla also successfully overcame a tidal-wave of Tony Sanchez supporters who turned out on the South West border. He retained control of the House seat with a majority vote in 17 of his 24 counties.

"I am grateful for my strong district-wide support. More than 77,000 people took time out of their busy days to show support for my work in Congress. I thank every one of them for their dedication," said Bonilla. "I love my job in the House of Representatives. It gives me a real opportunity to make a real difference. I'm already looking forward to serving the good people of the 23rd Congressional District for another two successful years."



Henry Bonilla

Bonilla's congressional district is the largest in Texas. The district spans nearly 800 miles of the Texas/Mexico border, includes two time zones and three climates. Bonilla is a member of the Appropriations Committee and is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Agriculture. He was the only Texan selected by then Gov. Bush to serve on his Presidential Exploratory Committee. Bonilla also served as co-chairman of the 2000 Republican National Convention. Bonilla has represented the 23rd Congressional District since his first election to Congress in 1992.



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

A win, win situation What benefits El Paso students benefits El Paso's economy

The UTEP's record-breaking \$29.3 million grant from the National Science Foundation will benefit thousands of students in El Paso, from kindergartners to college students. The recently passed Border Commuter Student Act creates two new visa categories for part-time commuter students from Mexico and Canada who take classes in the U.S. while residing in their home countries. There's no doubt that both the Border Commuter Student act and the NSF grant are great news for El Paso area educators and students, but it goes beyond that. The positive impact of increased access for part-time commuter students and increased education funding reaches far beyond our classrooms: A more educated workforce is a more lucrative workforce, and highly educated individuals are better equipped to compete in today's job market.

Our community is truly binational, and for this reason, it's important that people residing on both sides of the border have as many educational opportunities as possible. The Border Commuter Student Act allows Mexican nationals to take advantage of educational opportunities right here in El Paso, and is highly beneficial to El Paso area colleges and universities, as well as local businesses. Part time commuter students from Mexico are seeking technical, bachelors, and masters degrees. These students bring intellect and insight to our binational community, and are frequent customers of local

restaurants, stores, and service providers.

When we invest in education, our community becomes more attractive to investors and business developers. In the years ahead, career opportunities involving math, science, and advanced technology will continue to flourish. We must prepare for the future and give our children the tools they need to succeed. Increased business interest will bring critically needed jobs to the El Paso area.

The NSF grant will engage UTEP and El Paso Community College (EPCC) math, science, education, and engineering faculty in an intensive partnership program with local elementary, middle, and high schools with the goal of improving K-12 achievement in the areas of math and science. Students who reap the benefits of the newly funded math and science outreach will be prepared to enroll in math, science, and engineering programs at UTEP and EPCC in the future.

The NSF grant will give our El Paso area students the boost they need to become tomorrow's biomedical researchers, engineers, professors, and inventors, while at the same time bringing added prestige to UTEP and EPCC. Commuter students from Mexico will continue to add diversity of perspective and insight to campuses throughout El Paso and our border region. This is truly a win, win situation, and I am confident that our community will take full advantage of the opportunities that lie ahead.

City of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held during a **Regular Planning and Zoning Meeting on Monday, November 25, 2002 at 6:30 p.m.** at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and comment regarding proposed rezoning of the following property:

- 1) Rezoning of the Southwest corner of Eastlake Boulevard and Darrington Road being a portion of Tract 7, Block 79, Section 21, Township 3, Texas and Pacific Railroad Company Surveys. Said parcel contains 1.0044 acres currently zoned R-2, Single Family Residential to C-1, General Commercial.

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

Sandra Sierra
City Clerk

WTCC: 11/14/02

TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger Moore Nov. 19, 1854, Sam Houston is baptized in a creek near Independence.



View from here By Alan F. Holmer

Weakening patent laws will stifle development of beneficial drugs

The improvement in Helen Altenburg, a grandmother suffering from Alzheimer's disease, was noticeable at once — right after she started taking the new medication.

"Almost immediately, I started seeing a lot more of the old mom in her quiet wit and sense of humor," says Steve Altman, her son. "You could certainly see it in her eyes."

And then — about a month ago — it got even better, when her dosage was increased. Previously, Helen, who could hardly walk without her walker and couldn't stand up for very long, stayed mostly in their living room or her bedroom.

"But the other day, I found her in the kitchen doing the dishes — something she used to love to do, but hasn't done in years," her son said. "I was in shock to see her standing there. She's saying things lately that make a lot more sense than before and she brings things up that I

thought were long gone. So the little miracles keep on coming."

Although they probably aren't aware of it, Helen Altenburg and her family, like many residents of West Texas and millions of other patients who are being helped and healed by innovative new medicines, owe their improved health in part to a system that dates back to the drafting of the U.S. Constitution — the patent system.

Patents spur innovation, promote science, and encourage economic progress. Patents give an inventor a limited period of exclusivity to make, use, and sell an invention in exchange for the public disclosure of technological information, which encourages further scientific progress. Patents are provided for almost all types of non-obvious and useful discoveries, not just

See PANTENTS, Page 5

Study refutes insurance industry's claim of medical malpractice crisis

NEW YORK — Americans for Insurance Reform (AIR), a coalition of nearly 100 consumer and public interest groups representing more than 50 million people, announced today the release of a comprehensive study of medical malpractice. The study refutes the insurance industry's explanation for rising medical malpractice rates and undermines industry claims that a medical malpractice "crisis" for insurers exists.

The entire study is available at <http://www.insurance-reform.org>, and makes two specific findings.

First, over the last 30 years, medical malpractice payouts have directly tracked the rate of medical inflation; and second, over the same period, insurance premium rates have not tracked payouts at all (e.g. jury verdicts, settlements, etc.), but instead directly follow the ups and downs of the economy, the study says.

One of the study's major findings shows that the amount of money that medical malpractice insurers have paid out, including all jury awards and settlements, directly reflects the rates of medical inflation. The study finds that there has been no explo-

sion in medical malpractice payouts at any time during the last 30 years, as payments in constant dollars have been extremely stable and virtually flat since the mid-1980s.

The second major finding of the study is that for the last 30 years, insurance premiums increased and decreased in direct relationship to the state of the economy, and not in response to insurance policy payouts. When the economy is strong and the insurance industry's market investments are gaining, medical malpractice rates decrease, the study says, while on the other hand, when the economy is weak, as it has been since the second half of 2000, the insurance industry's market investments losing, while medical malpractice insurance rates increase.

These findings suggest, AIR says, that the real reason medical malpractice insurance rates fluctuate is market forces — not, as the insurance industry claims, because of a sudden massive increase in medical malpractice jury awards.

"These data together constitute a 'smoking gun,' which should, once and for all end the debate about the cause of these periodic medical malpractice crises," said the author of the study, J. Robert Hunter, Director of Insurance for the Consumer Federation of America, former Texas Insurance Commissioner and AIR co-

founder. "Insurers, whose own investment actions have created a 'crisis' in insurance affordability and availability, are blaming others for their own mismanagement by manufacturing a crisis for policyholders that simply should not exist. By increasing rates, insurers are forcing hospitals, doctors, and ultimately patients, to suffer for their poor business and investment decisions."

The findings of AIR's study come at a crucial time, as the nation's insurance companies are in the process of advancing a legislative agenda to limit liability for doctors, hospitals, HMOs, nursing homes and drug companies that cause injury.

Joanne Doroshov, Executive Director of the Center for Justice & Democracy and AIR co-founder, said "For far too long, the insurance industry has been engaged in a pricing scheme designed to gouge the American people based on a premise that lacks any basis in fact. Moreover, the insurance industry has been lobbying Congress for changes in the law designed to limit a consumer's legal rights by publicly putting out wrong and misleading information. There needs to be a serious investigation into the kinds of shenanigans the insurance industry has been engaging in when it comes to medical malpractice."



Thanksgiving Feast

Thursday, November 28 • Noon to 10^{PM}

Roast Turkey • Glazed Ham • Top Sirloin Steak
Meat Loaf • Fried Chicken • Mashed Potatoes
Gravy • Cornbread Dressing • Candied Yams
Corn on the Cob • Green Beans • Cranberry Sauce
Hot Bread • Soup and Salad Bar • Pumpkin Pie

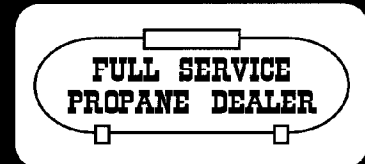
Adults \$8⁹⁹ • Children \$4⁹⁹

Happy Thanksgiving

Open 24 hours — Full family menus plus spectacular buffet and salad bar. I-10 at Horizon Blvd., 859-1906.



WEST TEXAS PROPANE



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851-2900

Glitter

From Page 2

an honest trade (there's that horrified gasp, again) was a perfectly acceptable thing to do, and that living a hard-working and responsible life taking care of your family and raising your offspring to be equally productive was the thing that really counted.

Remember that glittering quote about how it takes a village to raise a kid? You know, the one Hillary loved so much that she used it in the title of her book?

Well, all that glitters is not gold, and the bill of goods this national village has sold our young people concerning the true meaning of success is nothing they can take to the bank.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

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:

PORTABLE BUILDINGS
CSP NO. 199-1125-0326
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2002, 3:30 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-11/14/02

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:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 06, 2002 10 A.M.

LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICE
CSP NO. 199-1206-0318

LONG DISTANCE SERVICE
CSP NO. 199-1206-0319

UPGRADE OF UPS SYSTEM
CSP NO. 199-1206-0321

UPGRADE OF MERIDIAN 1 OPTION 81C PBX
CSP NO. 199-1206-0320

PBX MAINTENANCE

OF MERIDIAN 1 OPTION 11
CSP NO. 199-1206-0322

PBX MAINTENANCE OF OPTION 81
CSP NO. 199-1206-0323

PBX REPLACEMENTS FOR MIDDLE AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
CSP NO. 199-1206-0324

PBXs FOR NEW SCHOOLS
CSP NO. 199-1206-0325

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-11/14/02

FABENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fabens, Texas Invitation to Bid/ Respond:

Notice of invitation to bid for **Rental and/or Purchase of Janitorial Uniforms, Towels, Mops and Mats, Bid No. 02-03-01.** Fabens Independent School District will accept sealed bids until 10 a.m. December 2, 2002, at which time they will be publicly opened at the Fabens Administration Bldg. 821 N.E. "G" Avenue, Fabens, Texas.

Specifications may be secured by requesting them from the Business Office, P.O. Box 697, Fabens, Texas 79838, phone (915) 764-2025 or fax request to (915) 764-2968.
WTCC-11/14/02
11/21/02

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
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POSITION IDEAL FOR SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME: Place/supervise international high school students in your community! Training and compensation. Join us in Spain! Call Kelley: 1 (888) 238-8721.
11/21/02

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.

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

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

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solución. Visitemos. Alcohólicos Anónimos, Grupo 8 de Enero, 15360 Horizon Blvd., Horizon

City, sesiones lunes a sábado a 8 de la tarde. Informacion: 859-0484.

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San Elizario parenting program is about the nuts and bolts of helping kids with school



PAYING CLOSE ATTENTION — A San Elizario father and his small child listen to a literacy presentation during the October Bilingual Parent Meeting.

SAN ELIZARIO — There are many components to a child's educational success, which is why the San Elizario Independent School District places great importance on home, school and community-based educational programs for students and parents in San Elizario.

That's also why some of the students in the district's Bilingual Program are seeing their parents come to the classroom for lessons of their own. The program has been hosting monthly parent meetings that are geared to helping parents help their children with various projects and activities throughout the school year.

According to Eliza Simental, an Instructional Officer in the Bilingual Program, the ultimate goal for these parent meetings is to build a capacity with parents in the community.

"If we can do that, then everything takes care of itself," Simental said.

For example, an earlier parent meeting focused on helping parents set up and get the most out of a parent/teacher conference so that they could re-enforce at home what the child learns in school.

"Some parents don't know what questions to ask," Simental said. "We helped them concentrate on three kinds of questions such as academic (How is my child doing in reading, math, etc.), social (How does my child interact with other children at school?), and parental questions (How can I get involved?)."

October's meeting concentrated on literacy development, covering seven reading components such as oral language, phonological awareness, print and book knowledge, alphabetical principle, fluency, comprehension and written expression.

From sounding out and identifying syllables to the division of sen-

tences, parents were given a foundation to work from with their children, complete with activities in seven different workstations that covering the fundamental components to literacy.

According to Eva Gema Zamora, a parent in the San Elizario district, she is happy that there are activities she can take part in at home with her two sons, Abram and Marco, despite their limited English.

"They like to play with the syllables and formations of words to make new words," Zamora said. "They have a contest to see how many words they can make up."

The next Bilingual parent meeting is scheduled for Nov. 21, from 8:30-10:30 a.m. at San Elizario Middle School. Because many students will be working on their science projects and needing help, the focus for this meeting will be science.

Patents

From Page 4

medicines.

Strong patent protection is essential to promote the discovery and development of new life-saving, cost-effective medicines. Without such protection, far fewer new medicines would be developed for patients like Helen Altenburg. Nor would as many innovative new medicines be available for generic manufacturers to copy after patent expiration.

The reason is simple: the discovery and development of a new drug is a long, risky, and expensive process, but, once the research has been conducted, a copy can be made relatively quickly, easily, and cheaply. Few companies would be able to make the huge investment necessary,

on average more than \$800 million, to discover and develop a new medicine without the assurance that they will have patent protection for a limited amount of time to attempt to recover their investment, generate funds to continue their research and development (R&D), and earn a profit. Even with patents, only about three out of every 10 drugs that reach the market ever earn enough to recover their average R&D cost.

Pharmaceutical patents do not provide a monopoly for treating a specific disease. They simply provide an innovator with the exclusive right to develop and market its new medicine for a limited period of time. Other innovators are free to develop different medicines to treat the same disease, which happens all the time. That's why physicians often have a choice of medicines, allowing them to match

a patient with the medicine that best treats that individual patient.

The U.S. Senate recently passed legislation — now pending in the House — that would weaken patent laws for prescription medicines and thus weaken incentives for the development of new therapies. The United States Patent and Trademark Office has concluded that the bill "would likely do the opposite of what [it intends] — by limiting access to cutting-edge drugs, decreasing innovation, and ultimately harming the quality of treatments

available to patients."

Generics have a large role in the market. They now account for about half of all drugs dispensed. But there is a vital difference between generic and innovator drugs. The next new medicine to make a breakthrough in treating Alzheimer's and other diseases won't be a generic copy. Rather it will be an innovator medicine. That's why patients need strong patent laws.

Today, there are more than 1,000 new medicines in development, including almost two dozen to better

treat and hopefully one day, cure, Alzheimer's disease. The current patent system has worked well for Helen Altenburg and millions of other patients. It would not work nearly as well in the future if S. 812 ever becomes law.

Holmer is president of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), the trade association that represents the nation's research-based pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Website: www.phrma.org

'Last Tortilla' author Sergio Troncoso visits, inspires Clint High School

By Araceli G. Lara
Special to the Courier

CLINT — Author Sergio Troncoso inspired Clint High School students as the grand finale for a very successful National Teen Read Week.

Sergio Troncoso is the son of Mexican immigrants, a native El Pasoan and graduate of Ysleta High School. He attended Harvard University where he studied economics and government with a focus on Mexico. He was also a Fulbright Scholar to Mexico.

He went on to receive two graduate degrees from Yale University where he now teaches.

In 1999, his book, *The Last Tortilla and Other Stories*, won the Premio Aztlan for the best book by a new Chicano writer and the Southwest Book Award from the Border Regional Library Association. His first novel, *The Nature of Truth*, will be published in February of 2003.

On Friday morning, Oct. 18, Troncoso, attended a coffee at the Lion's library. He autographed books, visited and reminisced with students and staff. Later that morning, he spoke to Clint High School students leaving a strong inspirational message with them.

In his remarks, he told the students to stay away from people that held them back. "Fight back! If you fall, get back up," he said.

He told his audience about teachers that inspired him, mentioning Clint High School Coach David Moore, one of his coaches, and a remarkable teacher, Pearl Crouch, a

journalism advisor, that had a tremendous impact on his life.

Troncoso captivated his audience with partial autobiographical stories from his book, *The Last Tortilla*, describing his struggles growing up. He encouraged students to apply to different universities, asserting that limited expectations will get limited results.

When asked to comment on the presentation, Clint student, Matt Spitzberg said he found Troncoso "very inspirational. He is an example to follow. The fact that he attended Harvard from Ysleta High School says it all."

Another Clint Lion student, Leslie Mendoza said, "He made me feel like I was capable of doing anything. His background made it real for me. I truly enjoyed his stories."

The library hosted numerous other activities during the week which included a daily riddle contest, *Survivor* book voting, treasures in quotes hunt, fearless reader contest, and lunch time socials of poetry, ghost stories, life experiences, jokes and musical talents.

Phamiliar phrases "stool pigeon"

To catch a wild pigeon, a tame pigeon would be set out, still tied to the stool the hunter sat on while waiting. The wild bird, attracted to the "stool pigeon," ventured closer until the hunter snared it. We use the term now for a person who turns in someone they know to the authorities.

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CITY OF SOCORRO PUBLIC NOTICE

Section 504 Grievance Procedure

The City of Socorro has adopted an internal grievance procedure providing for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibiting by the Office of Revenue Sharing's (ORS) regulations (31 CFR 51.55 (d) (2) implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended 929 USC 794). Section 504 states, in part that "No otherwise qualified handicapped individual shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from the participation in, denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance..."

Complaints should be addressed to: Human Resource Officer, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., (915) 858-2915 who has been designated to coordinate Section 504 compliance efforts.

A complaint should be filed in writing or verbally, contain the name and address of the person filing it, and briefly describe the alleged violation of the regulation.

A complaint should be filed within ten (10) working days after the complainant becomes aware of the alleged violation. (Processing of allegations of discrimination occurring before this grievance procedure was in place will be considered on a case-by-case basis).

An investigation as may be appropriate, shall follow a filing of complaint. The investigation will be conducted by the Human Resource Officer. These rules contemplate informal but thorough investigations, affording all interested persons and their representatives, if any, an opportunity to submit evidence relevant to a complaint. Under 31 CFR 51.44 (d) 92), the City of Socorro needs to process complaints from applicants for employment or from applicants for admission to post secondary educational institutions.

A written determination as to the validity of the complaint and description of resolution, if any, shall be issued by the Human Resource Officer, and a copy forwarded to the complainant no later than ten (10) working days after its filing.

The Section 504 coordinator shall maintain the files and records of the City of Socorro relating to the complaints files.

The complainant can request a reconsideration of the case in instances where he or she is dissatisfied with the resolution. The request for reconsideration should be made within ten (10) working days to the City of Socorro.

The right of a person to prompt and equitable resolution of the complaint filing hereunder shall not be impaired by the person's pursuit of other remedies such as the filing of a Section 504 complaint with the Office of Revenue Sharing, U.S. Department of Treasury. Utilization of this grievance procedure is not prerequisite to the pursuit of other remedies.

These rules shall be construed to protect the substantive rights of interested persons, to meet appropriate due process standards and assure that the City of Socorro complies with Section 504 and ORS regulations.

Approved by City Council on January 17, 2002.

In the sports world, giving candy to babies is a dangerous thing

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

So you think that only professional and college sports are over-publicized, huh?

I'll bet you thought that almighty greed sank no lower than at the college level...well, think again.

Just when you thought that at least our youngsters were protected from the threat of corporate greed, comes Time Warner Communication.

Seems Time Warner has brought the world of self-promotion and money-making greed to an all-time low, and in this day and age that's not easy. *Sports Illustrated* has already proclaimed Lebron James, a 6-foot-7 senior at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in Ohio, as the best high school player in the nation.

So, in order to further get his name out, James' games will be televised on pay-per-view.

No, I didn't say Mike Tyson's next fight or

Wrestlemania 36 — I said a high school kid's high school basketball games will be available on pay-per-view TV over 14 counties in Northeast Ohio.

Any suckers...I mean potential viewers can catch the phenom for \$4-\$7 a game.

Here in El Paso, Time Warner televises a high school football and basketball game-of-the-week. But they cover all the teams in town, they don't promote just one player's games.

Now, I love sports as much as the next guy, but to give this high schooler so much exposure at such an early age is dangerous. It gives him the false sense that the people after a piece of him really care for his well-being. And there's no doubt that they do, but only as long as he can produce on the court and thus produce for their pockets.

James was described on the *Sports Illustrated* cover as "The Chosen One." And SI is right — every sleazy agent, corporation and marketing executive has painted a big red bull's eye right on this kid's forehead.

Watch out, Lebron James, these guys shoot

to kill.

Prep playoffs

Well, it's that time of year again.

No, I don't mean the time when the air gets cooler and the leaves turn color. I mean, it's time to see if any El Paso area football teams can compete with the big, bad out-of-towners in the playoffs.

Del Valle broke the trend last season by knocking off one of those Goliath-like teams on its way to the state quarterfinals. The question is, can any home-towners keep the ball rolling and pull another upset this year?

For years, El Paso teams did that deer-in-the-headlights thing once a team from a foreign land, O.K., a foreign county, took their place on the opposing sideline.

On Friday, three El Paso teams will try to win that elusive match-up with their more prestigious opponents.

Franklin will play at Amarillo High School, Socorro will host Lubbock-Monterey and Montwood will take on Lubbock-Coronado. Both Socorro and Montwood will play their

home games at the Socorro Student Activities Complex.

At 10-0, Franklin is considered the best team in the city, though some fans of the Riverside Rangers (10-0) would dispute that. Anyway, the Cougars will have to hit the road on Saturday for their game against Amarillo.

If Franklin can get starting quarterback Joey Frias back from injury they could have a chance against a just-above-average Amarillo high club.

Socorro (9-1) will meet Monterey on Friday night at the SAC. It will be tough for the Bulldogs but being at home always helps.

On Saturday afternoon the Montwood Rams will also play at the SAC. Lubbock-Coronado will be a tall order for the young Rams, who made the playoffs under first-year coach Chuck Veliz.

So who has the best chance to get by this round of the playoffs? I think Franklin has the mental toughness to get by and Socorro has been surprising people since week one. Montwood's best days are still to come.

One more thing, if these three District 5A teams falter this weekend, the 4A schools get their chance next weekend.

EMMS shares "Just For The Kids" success secrets with Washington crew

By Debra Dominguez
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Last year, the Clint Independent School District's East Montana Middle School was selected as one of 13 junior high and middle schools in the state to be named to the Texas Business and Education Coalition/Just for the Kids 2001 Honor Roll.

On Oct. 22, the school showcased its campus and academic excellence to a TBEC/JFTK Honor Roll Effective Practices committee from Wash-

ington — an opportunity for EMMS to share its secrets to success nationwide.

"The visit went well, and we got to show the Washington School Research Center just how we became a member of the TBEC Just for the Kids Honor Roll member," Robert Mendoza, EMMS Principal, said. "Their Effective Practices Study Team took time out to tour the school, interview me, staff focus groups and conduct interviews at central office."

The TBEC/JFTK Honor Roll is the most prestigious award for sustained, whole-school academic excellence in

Texas. It recognizes consistent performance from schools rated exemplary or recognized for three years — schools that have excellent performance in each grade in each subject. It is the next step beyond the current accountability system, the one-year "Star" snapshot outlined in the recent Texas Monthly article and the Blue Ribbon school, in which schools must apply for recognition.

"The visiting study team wanted to know such things as, what has the state done to help us when it comes to our policies, regulations and funding," Mendoza said. "We also informed them on what systems are in place at our school to help bilingual and ESL students become successful. They also asked what classroom practices we found particularly effective and what school systems need to do to assure all students are successful."

Mendoza said the Effective Practices Study Team debriefed and will take their findings back to Washington, and perhaps later share what they learned with other school districts.

"To have EMMS recognized at this level is not only an indication of successful teaching but a validation that the school and school district is dedicated to excellence in education,"

Clint ISD Superintendent Donna Smith said. "They should be proud."

It was Nov. 14 that East Montana Middle School, located at 3490 Ascension Rd., first got a taste of statewide fame. The school was awarded and inducted into the TBEC/JFTK Honor Roll at a TBEC VIP Briefing and Awards Luncheon in Dallas.

The Texas Business and Education Coalition was formed in 1989 to bring business and education leaders together in a long-term effort to improve the performance of the Texas public school system. TBEC, which has gained national acclaim for its education reform accomplishments, has influenced the direction of state education policy and stimulated community-based school improvement activities because of the active involvement and volunteer efforts of its many business and education supporters.

Just for the Kids is a non-profit organization that takes the state's Texas Assessment of Academic Skills test to the next level. For the TAAS, the state requires that more than 80 percent of the students score a passing grade of 70 on the Texas Learning Index to be considered Recognized.

Grants

From Page 1

helping America's rural communities thrive and prosper," said Undersecretary for Rural Development Tom Dorr.

"Investing in our hospitals and schools, as well as providing housing development for low income communities, helps families, creates new jobs and provides real investments in these rural areas."

In August, Veneman attended an economic forum in Texas, convened by President Bush, which brought federal agencies together with working Americans to examine ways to strengthen the U.S. economy and create jobs.

USDA serves as the lead federal entity for rural development needs and administers program assistance through three agencies: Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service and Rural Utilities Service.

Further information on USDA Rural Development and these announcements can be obtained by contacting any USDA Service Center or by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.usda.gov>.

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- BRAKE SHOES ACROSS**
- 1 Fleet
 - 7 Implore
 - 10 Comics "Andy _"
 - 14 In the lead
 - 19 Laughed loudly
 - 20 Ivy Leaguer
 - 21 Jai _
 - 22 Sibelius' " _ Triste"
 - 23 Start of a remark by Joan St. Onge
 - 24 Paving material
 - 25 Picnic spoiler
 - 26 Shocked
 - 27 Susan of "L.A. Law"
 - 28 Forsake
 - 31 _ -di-dah
 - 33 Chihuahua relative
 - 34 _ Valley, CA
 - 36 Aparicio or Alvarez
 - 38 Least relaxed
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 - 52 Joyce's land
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 - 67 _ roll
 - 69 Made wine divine
 - 72 Actress Remini
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 - 74 Part 3 of remark
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 - 82 Humorist
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 - 84 Dallas coll.
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 - 91 Happen next
 - 95 Sale stipulation
 - 97 Smeltery refuse
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 - 100 Baseball's Bucky
 - 101 Owns
 - 104 Joyce of "Roc"
 - 106 _ -Magnon
 - 107 Droll
 - 108 Part 4 of remark
 - 113 With 66 Across, Burt Reynolds flick
 - 114 Mediocre
 - 115 Related
 - 116 Sweater letter
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 - 119 "The Consul" composer
 - 122 Cow or sow
 - 125 Range rope
 - 128 Leslie Caron role
 - 130 Health resort
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 - 10 Big name in cruises
 - 11 Chicken _ king
 - 12 Bucket
 - 13 Fiesta target
 - 14 Gregory's "On the Beach" co-star
 - 15 Crone
 - 16 Makes merry
 - 17 St. Francis' home
 - 18 Terminal
 - 29 Acrid
 - 30 Force out
 - 32 Rope fiber
 - 34 Famed photographer
 - 35 " _ Too Late" ('71 hit)
 - 37 At _ and sevens
 - 39 Zilch
 - 40 Social climber
 - 41 Pennant
 - 42 Molten rock
 - 43 Perpetual lab assistant
 - 44 Rock's _ Express
 - 45 Sane
 - 46 The sound of little bells
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 - 58 Stocking shade
 - 59 Artist Benjamin
 - 61 Computer key
 - 64 "Willard" extras
 - 65 Subject
 - 68 Curly coif
 - 70 Chemical ending
 - 71 "A Kiss Before _" ('91 film)
 - 74 Comic Carvey
 - 75 Spring flower
 - 76 Skater Thomas
 - 77 Flightless birds
 - 78 High-flying birds
 - 79 Become a blond
 - 80 Shabby
 - 87 Stops
 - 89 It may be spare
 - 90 Winter vehicle
 - 92 Big rig
 - 93 Textbook heading
 - 94 Emulate Whistler
 - 96 "Scat!"
 - 98 In a morose manner
 - 102 Diving bird
 - 103 A whole bunch
 - 105 Cathedral area
 - 107 Dernier _
 - 108 Odysseus' home
 - 109 Emergency
 - 110 Puff, for one
 - 111 It's down in the mouth
 - 112 With hands on hips
 - 113 Cheerleader's maneuver
 - 118 Copter kin
 - 120 Grand Ole _
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 - 129 Nitrous oxide, e.g.
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Snickers technology helps fight hunger

By Don Flood

(Editor's note: As part of our continuing attempts to bring you the latest in column technology, this week we'll experiment with a "news crawl," bulletins that allow you to stay abreast of important issues — just like when you're watching TV!)

"Don't let hunger happen to you," warns the latest ad from Snickers.

Americans may not get the message on some issues — fitness, for example — but they have taken the anti-hunger message to heart.

When it comes to eating, Americans have always been a can-do people.

(News bulletin: Right this very minute Anna Nicole Smith is doing something either tacky or stupid.)

But despite Americans' valiant attempt to stave off hunger, some concerned citizens felt we weren't doing all we could to pack in the necessary calories.

That's why at the Colorado State Fair this summer they introduced the deep-fried Snickers bar.

Yes, you read that correctly.

Snickers, all by themselves, used to be considered adequate by junk food standards. After all, they consist of peanuts, sugar and chocolate.

(News bulletin: Doctors at the Emergency Trauma and Duct Tape Center in Houston have announced another success, this time using duct tape to reattach a man's head. The patient, however, insists that he was attached to the wrong body.)

But candy bars by themselves don't cut it for today's hunger-fearing eaters, who noted that while the Snickers bars were relatively high in calories, they were lacking in fat content.

So they took a Snickers bar, put it on a stick, covered it in batter, deep-fried it and then powdered it with sugar. Basically, we're talking about a doughnut with a candy bar inside.

(News bulletin: Madonna's next movie, which doesn't exist on paper much less film, is expected to be "a major flop," according to industry sources. Said one critic, "Her character just isn't believable, whatever it turns out to be.")

The result was history and more than a few fat thighs.

And because of this development in food technology, experts say that hunger has been pretty well eradicated from the grounds of the Colorado State Fair.

In fact, deep-fried Snickers worked so well at helping people ward off hunger that similar products began popping at state fairs across the country.

In Arkansas, home of the Bill Clinton Midnight Big Mac Attack, they launched still another weapon in the fight against hunger — a deep-fried Twinkie.

(News bulletin: In a statement through her publicist, Britney Spears has issued an apology for appearing in public without her midriff showing. "Since it was a funeral, I thought it would be OK," said the belly-baring pop star.)

Twinkies, of course, have been the quintessential junk food for more than a generation, but it took American know-how to make a junk food even junkier.

It's a shame though. If they had dipped the Twinkie in chocolate, covered it in batter and then deep-fried it, they could have had a real breakthrough.

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Briefs

From Page 1

featured at the Seventh Annual Texas Book Festival along with over 170 other distinguished authors from Texas and across the country. Hambric's book *Charreada: Mexican Rodeo in Texas* won her the recognition. First Lady Laura Bush, honorary chairman of the festival, will host the event at the State Capitol in Austin Nov. 16-17. Hambric will participate in panel discussions, book signings and readings, as well as attending several other functions in association with the festival. Further information on the festival is available at www.texasbookfestival.org.

■ Proud principals Joe Keith of the new Sun Ridge school and Yvonne Walker of the new Lujan-Chavez were on hand to welcome over 1,800 students and family members during dedication ceremonies of their campuses on Nov. 5

■ State Rep. Manny Najera announced last week that the Texas Preservation Trust Fund has awarded a \$30,000 grant to the El Paso County Planning and Development Dept. for the preservation of the Old San Elizario County Jail, and \$10,000 to the Pass of the North Heritage Corridor for the Border Heritage Booklet Series in El Paso County. "The financial aid the Texas Preservation Trust Fund provides is a unique resource that contributes to our state's growing heritage tourism industry," Najera said. "(It) helps our community and many others create a quality of life that attracts new business to our state." To apply for assistance, contact Lisa Harvell at 512-463-6094 or write to the Texas Historical Commission Architecture Division at P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711.

■ Socorro High School will host its first Christmas Fair on Saturday, Dec. 14, with food, games and entertainment along with vendors featuring many holiday items. The cost to rent a booth is \$5. For more information, call 860-6640.

■ Tickets are now on sale for the

District 4A football match-up between Ysleta High School Indians and Canutillo High School Eagles, at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 14, at CHS Eagles Stadium. Advance tickets for adults are \$4, and student tickets are \$2. Advance tickets may be purchased at the CHS Front Office, 7311 Bosque Road. Tickets at the gate will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. For more information, call 877-7501.

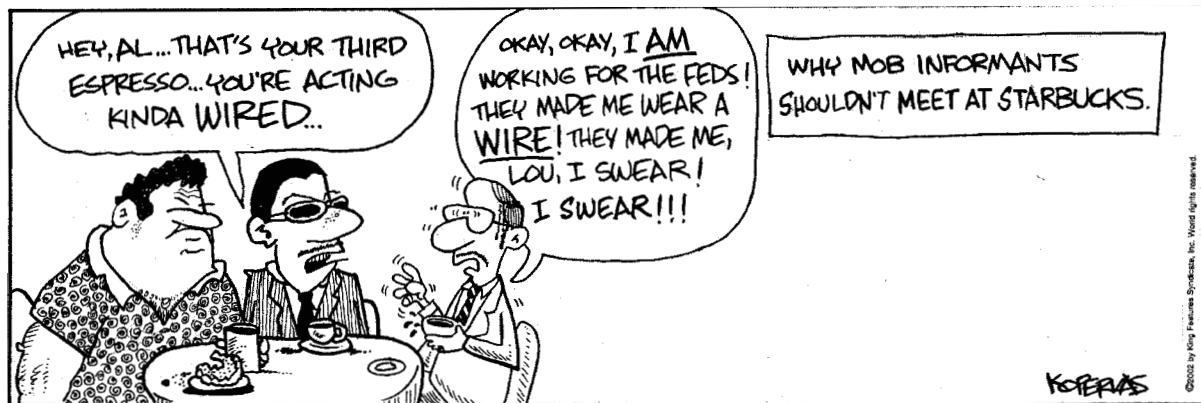


Pauline Dow

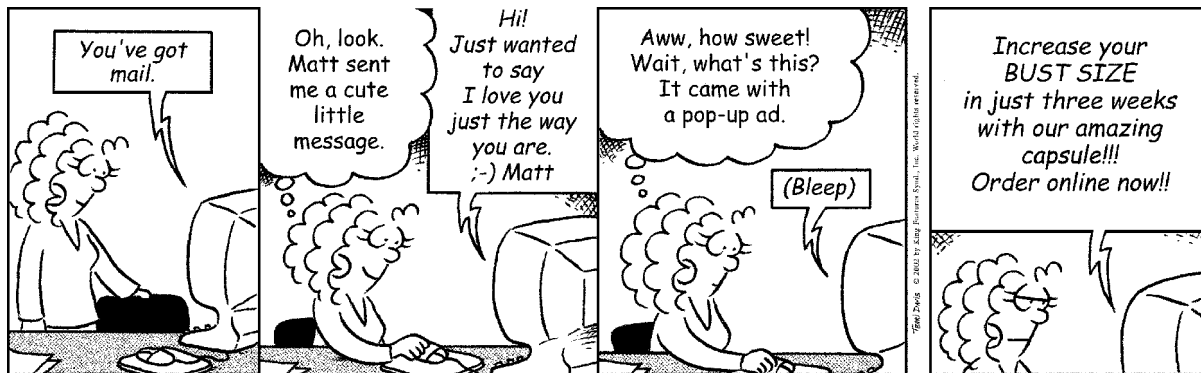
■ Pauline Dow, director for Academic Language Services for Canutillo Independent School District, has been elected to a three-year term on the National Board of Directors of Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) at its National Council Session held in Long Beach, California, Oct. 17-20. Dow has a diverse background in volunteer work including a Girl Scout troop volunteer, board member of the National Association of Bilingual Education, chair of the public relations committee for the Texas Association for Bilingual Education, and former president of the El Paso Community Scholars program. She also has oversight of Canutillo's bilingual, migrant, and immigrant education, and the Americorps VISTA Volunteer project. The Girl Scouts' new board consists of 40 women and four men from around the nation, with careers in finance, technology, strategic-planning and fund development and are from the African-American, American-Indian, Asian-American, Caucasian and Hispanic communities. Girl Scouts of the USA has a membership of more than 3.8 million girls and adults, with headquarters in New York City. Now in its 90th year, GSUSA strives to cultivate values, social conscience, and self-esteem in young girls.

Comix

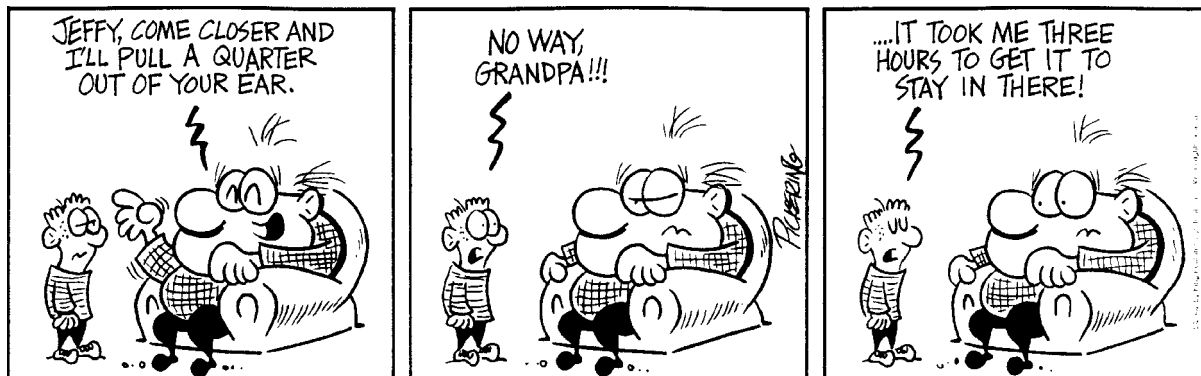
OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



GOT A LIFE By Terri Davis



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering

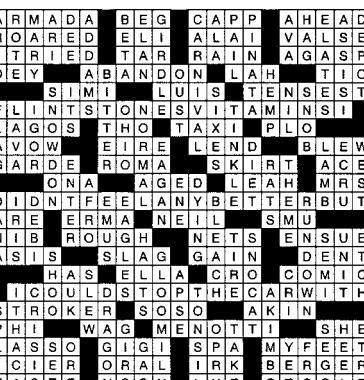


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Social Security: Q & A By Ray Vigil

Q: My wife is a retired teacher and receives a California state pension. She has not worked under Social Security long enough to qualify for Social Security benefits. Will she qualify for Social Security benefits as my spouse when I retire at age 65?

A: Probably not. Although your wife would be entitled to a spouse benefit, she probably will not receive it because she is also entitled to a pension based on her state employment that is not covered under Social Security. When a person receives a federal, state or local government pension where he or she did not pay Social Security taxes, the Social Security benefit is subject to a government

pension offset. Generally the reduction would be an amount equal to two thirds of the state pension.

Q: When I applied for Social Security benefits on my ex-husband's Social Security record a year ago, the representative said I wasn't eligible because I had to be 62 years old. My ex-husband passed away last month, and a friend told me that I only have to be age 60 to get benefits based on his work since he is deceased. Is this true?

A: Yes. Benefits can be paid to divorced widows or widowers who are age 60 or older (or age 50 to 60 and disabled) if they meet the other eli-

gibility requirements.

Q: I'm a 36-year-old widow and receive monthly Social Security checks because I have three pre-school children in my care. If I were to go to work, would we stop receiving Social Security?

A: Your children will not lose their benefits if you go back to work. However, your own survivors benefits are subject to the annual earnings limit, so your benefits will be reduced \$1 for every \$2 you earn over \$11,280 annually.

Q: Is it true that some people work and still collect disability benefits?

A: Yes. Social Security has special rules designed to help disability ben-

eficiaries go back to work. Social Security can provide cash income and medical assistance while beneficiaries attempt to work on a regular basis.

Q: I receive Social Security disability benefits. Will my Social Security benefits change when I turn age 65?

A: No. But when you turn age 65, your benefits will be called retirement benefits instead of disability benefits.

Q: I'm thinking about getting disability protection from a private company. If I become disabled and have a private policy, would it reduce my Social Security disability benefit?

A: No. Your eligibility for Social Security disability payments is not

affected by any private insurance you may have. But worker's compensation and certain other public disability payments may affect your Social Security benefit.

Q: Will my monthly Social Security benefits increase in January 2003? If so, how much?

A: Yes, Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits will increase by 1.4 percent.

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

WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
 ▲ 74°	 ▼ 50°	 ▲ 70° ▼ 46°	 ▲ 72° ▼ 46°	 ▲ 76° ▼ 44°	 ▲ 76° ▼ 44°	 ▲ 78° ▼ 48°	 ▲ 80° ▼ 50°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	6	Moderate
Friday	4	Low
Saturday	6	Moderate
Sunday	7	High
Monday	7	High
Tuesday	7	High
Wednesday	7	High

REAL FEEL TEMP™

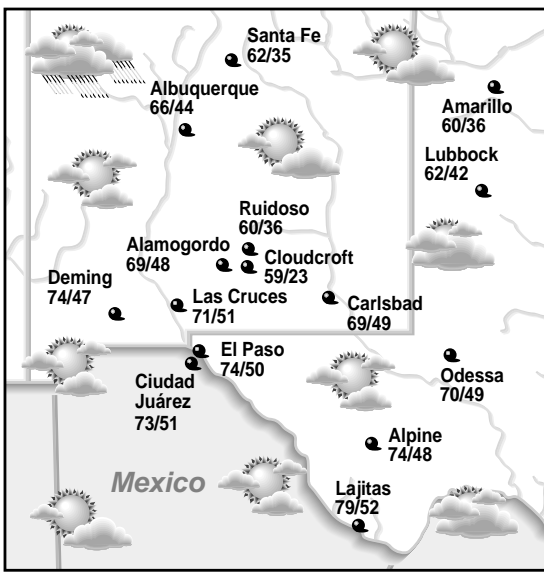
The exclusive AccuWeather composite of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

Thursday	77°
Friday	59°
Saturday	61°
Sunday	64°
Monday	72°
Tuesday	76°
Wednesday	75°

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	73	53
Canutillo	74	54
Clint	73	52
E. Montana	74	50
Fabens	73	52
Horizon	74	54
San Elizario	71	51
Socorro	73	50
Tornillo	73	52
Vinton	74	54

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	66/44/pc	62/42/c	64/43/pc	65/42/s	67/38/s
Atlanta	66/49/pc	68/46/s	69/50/s	63/51/pc	67/48/pc
Atlantic City	66/46/s	60/42/pc	61/42/pc	59/41/pc	61/31/pc
Austin/San Antonio	76/54/s	68/58/sh	75/58/r	72/56/c	69/57/c
Baltimore	63/39/s	59/41/pc	63/44/pc	63/41/pc	62/33/pc
Boston	60/44/pc	60/42/pc	56/44/pc	58/43/pc	57/34/pc
Chicago	44/32/sh	46/32/pc	52/36/sh	50/33/pc	46/37/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	72/52/s	63/53/c	65/53/r	68/53/pc	68/50/pc
Denver	64/34/s	66/39/s	63/36/s	63/34/s	59/29/s
Flagstaff	58/32/pc	60/28/pc	62/28/sh	60/28/s	56/24/s
Houston	76/57/pc	76/60/sh	78/62/sh	78/60/sh	72/58/c
Kansas City	53/33/pc	55/39/s	60/41/pc	60/37/pc	59/44/s
Las Vegas	80/54/pc	80/56/s	78/54/s	82/55/s	80/55/s
Miami	83/70/s	85/72/pc	87/74/pc	87/75/pc	87/71/s
Minneapolis	38/26/c	42/32/pc	48/34/pc	43/29/pc	44/25/c
New Orleans	72/57/s	74/59/s	78/63/sh	78/60/r	76/63/c
New York City	62/48/s	56/46/pc	56/48/pc	59/48/c	60/42/pc
Philadelphia	62/46/s	59/44/pc	62/48/pc	62/44/c	60/40/pc
Phoenix	84/62/pc	82/60/pc	86/62/s	84/62/s	84/56/s
Portland	74/46/s	70/46/pc	66/46/pc	67/47/s	65/47/s
San Francisco	68/54/pc	66/54/pc	66/54/pc	68/52/pc	68/52/s
Seattle	68/46/s	64/46/pc	62/48/pc	62/48/pc	59/50/pc
Tucson	82/56/pc	78/54/pc	82/52/pc	83/55/s	82/51/s
Washington, DC	65/48/s	61/44/pc	60/46/pc	59/45/c	62/37/pc

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

AGRICULTURE

A strong upper-level low approaching from the west could trigger a shower across the area late Thursday or Thursday night; otherwise, expect 4-8 hours of sunshine Thursday. There is a better chance for a few showers and even a thunderstorm Friday and Friday night. Rainfall by Saturday morning will generally be 0.10 to 0.40 of an inch.

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



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