



NEWSBRIEFS

Goat jackpot

Agricultural science students from West Texas and Southern New Mexico are invited to participate in the Second Annual Canutillo FFA Goat Jackpot from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 1, at 7700 Cap Carter Road (next to Bill Childress Elementary School off of Doniphan Drive in the Town of Vinton). The goat jackpot is hosted by Canutillo High School FFA student organization and will include Market and Breeding shows and Junior and Senior Pee wee shows. Weigh-in begins at 9 a.m. The Breed Goat show will start at 10 a.m. followed by the pee wee shows. The Market Goat show will be at 1 p.m. with the awards presentation scheduled for 4 p.m. Entry fee for the Breeding show is \$20 per animal and \$35 per animal for the Market show. Judge for the goat shows will be Mike Harbour, well-known West Texas goat rancher. "Last year we had over 100 participants; this year we hope to double the number of participants. We have over \$4,000 in cash and prizes to award," said Ron Gil, CHS Ag-science teacher and FFA advisor. Grand champion will receive a goat trailer. Reserve champion will win a metal show box. Premium money will be awarded to first through third place winners in the market class. All contestants will be given T-shirts. Showmanship buckles will be awarded in both market and breeding meat shows. The event is open to the public. For more information, call 877-7545.

Freeway closure

Texas Department of Transportation has announced it will be necessary to temporarily close the main lanes, both East and Westbound, on Interstate 10 at the Lee Trevino Bridge on the weekend of Jan. 24, 25, and 26 to set the brackets and forms to the new bridge structure. The closures — Westbound from Zaragoza to Lee Trevino, Eastbound from Lomaland to Lee Trevino — will begin at 10 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24 and continue through Monday, Jan. 26 until approximately 5 a.m. The Zaragoza entrance ramp and the McRae and Yarbrough entrance ramps will also be closed at this time. Westbound traffic will exit at the Lee Trevino exit ramp and re-enter at the Lee Trevino entrance ramp. Eastbound traffic will exit at the Lee Trevino exit ramp and return to IH-10 at the Lee Trevino entrance ramp. TXDOT says that access will be available to all businesses in the area during the closure.

Horizon summit

A summit meeting to discuss the future of the Horizon area will be held at the Frank Macias Elementary School on Friday, Jan. 31. Business and community representatives, elected officials, public authorities and state agencies will attend. The event

See BRIEFS, Page 5

Just about the time we finally learn all the answers, they change all the questions.
— Quips & Quotes

Frustrated San Elizario residents want help from school board to tap into sewer line

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

SAN ELIZARIO — The night of Jan. 15 was one of both recognition and frustration at the monthly meeting of the board of trustees of the San Elizario Independent School District.

It was recognition and appreciation of the work of the board by the students, teachers and administrators in compliance with Texas' School Board Recognition Month.

It was also a night of frustration for two San Elizario residents, Ramón Holguin and Ricardo Maese, who were hoping the board could help them in their attempt to get waste water line hookups to their homes.

"I am thankful for my mom," sang four little girls from Alarcon Elementary School. They repeated the message, changing one word, and thanking, in turn, their fathers, teachers, friends and members of the school board.

Creative students from the high school presented various papier-mache figures to each board member. High school principal Jeralyn DeFrank said the bull figure was for board president Antonio Araujo.

Superintendent Mike Quatrini characterized the trustees as a "visionary board. They have opened doors for us. They are the reason we are where we are today. Thank you for all you have done on behalf of parents, teachers, students and the community," he said.

Holguin and Maese came to the board trying to enlist its help in a community hookup to the waste water line.

Frustration, tinged with irony, came when it was learned that it was not possible to tap into the pressurized or forced line because it would cause a backup of sewage into homes.

There was irony for Holguin because he says he was on the school board back in the 1980s which was instrumental in bringing these lines to the community and to the colonias.

He feels he and about 50 homes along Socorro Road are caught in the middle. They are faced with the "hassle" of emptying septic tanks.

Holguin and Maese see their situation as being caught in the middle because they are not rich enough to afford the cost of bringing in the lines themselves yet they are not poor enough to qualify for grants and other funding that brought these same services to the colonias.

"Others have gotten wastewater treatment; we haven't. It's not fair; we got short-changed," Holguin said. "I knew this was coming."

Board vice president Rick Rednour explained that the issue was no longer in hands of the board. "It belongs to the Lower Valley Water District."

In other business, student counselor Ricardo Garza reported to the board on efforts to encourage students to apply for scholarships and continue their education after high school graduation.

"We are challenging students to take challenging courses," he said. "We vigorously push scholarships," he said, adding that counselors sit down with students individually to see that they are "guided properly."

In other action, the board approved:

- An agreement between the school district and El Paso County to continue a delinquency prevention program through a \$100,000 Project Real grant from the state.

- A resolution for youth assistance program grant application. The youth assistance program is an effort to keep Project Real in San Elizario for the next three years.

New walking track generates excitement in Anthony

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

ANTHONY — Anthony, Texas now offers members of the community a less rocky road to physical fitness.

That less rocky road is the newly resurfaced quarter-mile track at the Tommy Sanchez Memorial Field adjacent to the middle school in the Anthony Independent School District. The refurbished track was opened Jan. 15 in an early morning ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"It belongs to everybody; it's yours," AISD superintendent Robert Ortega told approximately 100 students and community members who turned out for the event. "Respect it. Take care of it."

Ortega thanked community leaders and members of the school board for making it possible.

School board member Rosie Holguin cut the ribbon after which a large group of adults began walking the track to inaugurate its use. Students followed a few minutes later, racing to catch up with and passing the adult walkers.

"It's great," said Mayor Art Franco who says he regularly works out in the early morning hours and evening at the track. "The school board has done an excellent job in providing a recreational facility."

The mayor said his twice-daily workout of upwards of six miles was difficult before

See TRACK, Page 4

Socorro police salaries studied

Teran wants Socorro's help to bring parks to Lower Valley

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — Recruiting and maintaining police officers for the Socorro Police Department has been an ongoing problem. Interim Chief of Police Jesus Ortega reported to the Socorro City Council during a recent meeting that he feels the problem stems from low paying salaries currently being offered by the City of Socorro.

Chief Ortega said he has researched salaries from other law enforcement agencies in the surrounding areas to compare their salaries to Socorro's salaries and found Socorro to be the lowest paying in the area.

He said there are currently seven vacancies in the Socorro Police Department, and advertisements to fill these vacancies have gone out a couple of times with little or no response.

The Horizon City Police Department, which patrols a population of approximately 6000-7000 has a pay scale slightly higher to that of the Socorro Police Department. Horizon City has a starting salary for a patrol officer of \$22,500 as compared to Socorro's \$20,888 for officers who serve a population close to 30,000 people.

Chief Ortega went on to include the salaries for a deputy in the El Paso County Sheriff's Department starting a \$31,414.78 and the El Paso Police Department's starting salary at \$28,817.10 for a police officer.

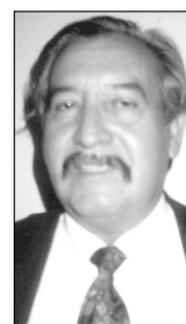
He also compared the City of Socorro's Police Department salary to that of the Socorro ISD's police department which has a starting salary for an officer at \$26,520.

Chief Ortega said these salaries are in addition to retirement and health insurance benefits. The City of Socorro only offers insurance benefits, but does not offer any retirement benefits.

Mayor Irma Sanchez agreed with Chief Ortega on needing to take action on the salaries. She said she is tired of Socorro being a "training facility" for other law enforcement agencies who take their trained officers because their salary and benefits package is much more attractive than the City of Socorro's.

Mayor Sanchez thanked Chief Ortega for his research and challenged members of City Council to rectify the problem and to do it quickly.

In other business, Commissioner Miguel Teran made a presentation to City Council re-



Miguel Teran

garding the dire need of parks in the Socorro area.

He said he is looking for ways for the City of Socorro to obtain the deed to the Rio Vista Farm Historic District. He said he is looking to purchase some land from Texas A&M in order to build a park and is asking the City of Socorro to maintain the park. This would allow him to then give the deed of the Rio Vista Farm Historic District to the City of Socorro since Texas

government prohibits land to be given away. Teran said if Socorro was to maintain a park purchased by the County of El Paso, the County would then be able to give the Rio Vista Farm Historic District to the City of Socorro in exchange.

Commissioner Teran went on to say the County has set aside \$4.3 million as capital monies for parks in the Lower Valley but that this money is in jeopardy of being transferred for parks in the Upper Valley.

He urged City Council members along with Mayor Sanchez and community members to share their thoughts on the need for parks in the Socorro area at the next County Commissioner Court. Commissioner Teran said this is a quality of life issue for the Lower Valley.



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Something of a paradox

The plump green body of a cactus adorns the front page of the *El Paso Times*, topped with a crown of golden blooms. In what appears to be a pristine desert background, the news photographer has skillfully captured several other types of cactus.

Warning! the headline blares. Our West Texas cactuses are in danger! The culprit? What the article calls "poaching" of cactus from the desert to be sold for landscaping purposes.

The article cites a recent study that claims that unless state and national government takes a greater oversight of "our desert" to regulate the removal of native plants from public and private lands, the delicate ecosystem of the Southwest may be in danger.

Meanwhile, our water providers are trying to put water conservation on the same plane with honoring the flag and your mother. Don't take more than three minutes in the shower, even if you must emerge with shampoo bubbles floating off your head. Forget watering your yard. Even the aforementioned cactus are too thirsty. Use concrete and gravel. You owe it to yourself, to the delicate eco-system of our Southwest, to use less water, even if you must spend thousands to install a refrigerated air conditioner to eliminate your thirsty swamp cooler.

After all, it is your personal civic duty.

But somewhere in the back of my civic mind, I keep having these questions. I know it is terribly un-civic of me, but I just have to ask:

What ever happened to the civic-minded responsibility of the state, federal, corporate and developmental

powers when it comes to our stewardship of this delicate desert eco-system?

I'd say they carry just a little more social and political weight than that poor fellow trying to scramble out of the shower before his three minutes are up.

The irony of this new-found concern over the well-being of cactus was hanging heavy in the air as I read the save-the-cactus article. A scene from several years ago lurked in my memory — the day I visited the site at Sierra Blanca where Merco Joint Ventures was preparing to spread New York City's sewer sludge across the desert landscape.

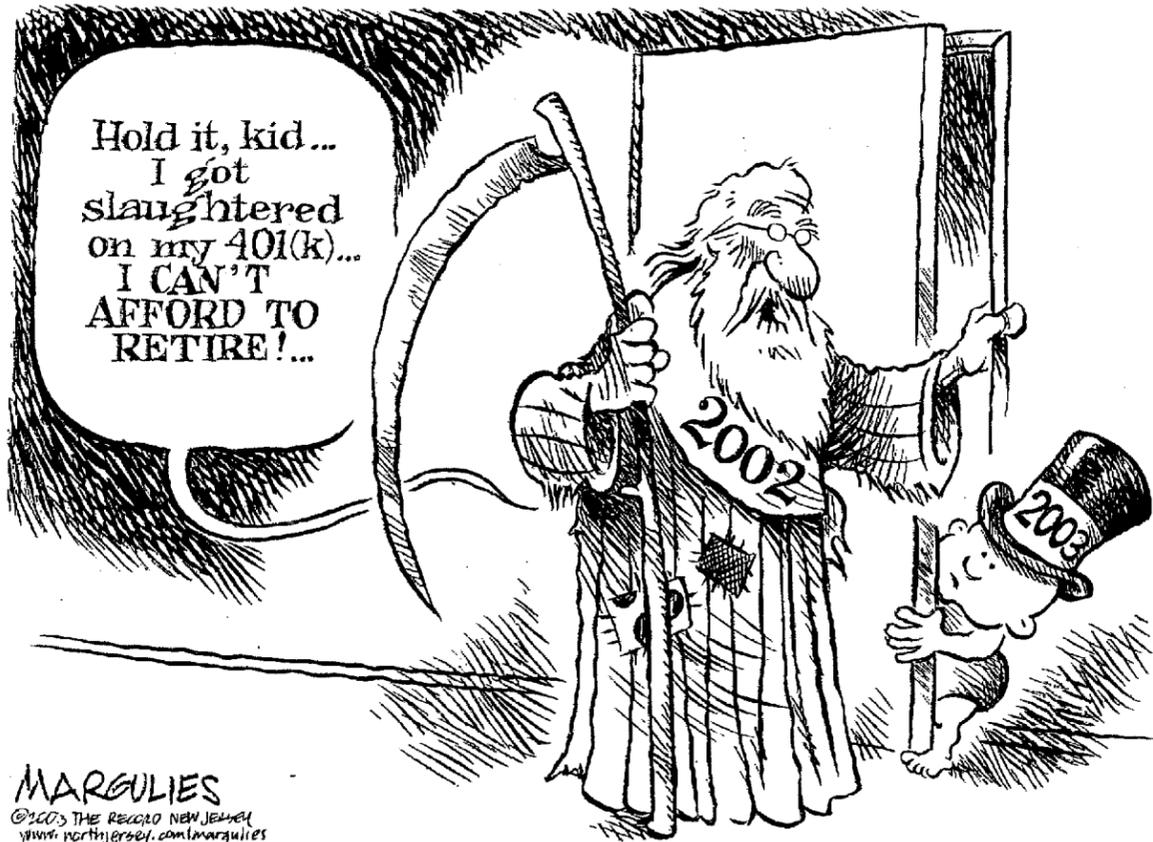
The heavy teeth of a huge mowing machine cut into the powdery dirt, tearing up and grinding native plants. One man standing next to me muttered under his breath "there goes a little soap bush" as a yucca plant fell under the grinding plow.

This was a venture allowed and sponsored by the state, federal and corporate forces that have "oversight" of our desert eco-system.

As I drive around this community, I don't see many desert scenes like the one on the front page of the *Times* today. What I do see are cactus with plastic shopping bags caught in the spines, surrounded by various other trash and debris. Just out of sight of the roadway, especially here in the East County, are large deposits of construction trash illegally dumped. Desert dumping is a crime but it mostly goes unpunished unless you or I accept the responsibility to see that it is prosecuted.

What I also see are massive

See PERSPECTIVE, Page 4



MARGULIES ©2003 THE RECORD NEW JERSEY www.northjersey.com/margulies



©2002 The Toledo Blade - email: kirk@theblade.com NKK

30 Years WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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

COPYRIGHT: Entire contents © 2003 Homesteader News, Inc. Individual authors retain all rights. Pictures, drawings and written material appearing in the *West Texas County Courier* may not be used or reproduced without written permission of Homesteader News, Inc.

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

AD DEADLINE: Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

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

DISPLAY RATES: Open rate — \$20 per column inch. Call for more information or to set an appointment. The *Courier* reserves the right not to print advertising it considers inappropriate.

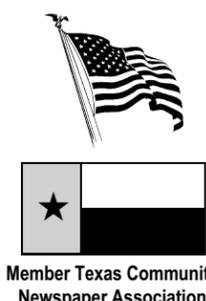
MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: 52 issues for \$30. Delivery via 1st class mail.

ADDRESS: 15344 Werling Court Horizon City, TX 79928

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

Publisher Rick Shrum
Business Manager Francis D. Shrum
Contributors Don Woodyard Steve Escajeda Arleen Beard

Homesteader News, Inc. Est. 1973



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes



Head Start about to be challenged — again!

The new announcement by the Bush administration that it will probe the Head Start programs nationwide to make sure the government-funded preschool program for the poor is benefiting four-year-olds is the same old Trojan horse.

That's the Beltway take from those "in-the-know." Head Start is on the chopping block — again.

The official line is that the 900,000-plus kids nationwide will be assessed to find out how much they're learning.

The nearly 4,000 three- and four-year-old El Paso Head Starters today are the latest crop of youngsters preceded by tens of thousands in our community that were substantially helped in recent years. And, it's easy to say, that the local Head Start program is one of El Paso's most valuable educational assets. Head Start not only benefits academic but social and emotional aspects of poor kids.

The "new" evaluations will be based on standardized data to help pinpoint resources, supposedly.

"This is necessary to ensure that every child is progressing the way that they should," said Windy Hill publicly, the Head Start exec who heads the effort.

But a number of experts and leaders of local Head Start programs say the assessment looks more like "a high-stakes test for preschoolers that will yield little use-

ful information because children are too young to be evaluated with a standardized exam."

"Young children are poor test takers...and have a restricted ability to comprehend assessment cues," said Samuel J. Meisels, president of the non-profit Erikson Institute, in a published response to Hill.

The Administration wants to reshuffle Head Start's focus to solely emphasize early literacy. But a standardized assessment would amount to a test that would only provide unreliable results and undermine Head Start's complete and success-proven mission.

The bottom line is that the Administration, which is strapped to find money to selectively cut taxes, spur the economy generally and to fight a war in Iraq, may be willing to jeopardize an invaluable program in the process. And they're laying out \$1.8 million up front for a research firm to devise the assessment that will start this spring.

How long — and how much will it cost?

That's the big question echoing around The Hill, regarding plans to attack/invoke/reconstruct Iraq.

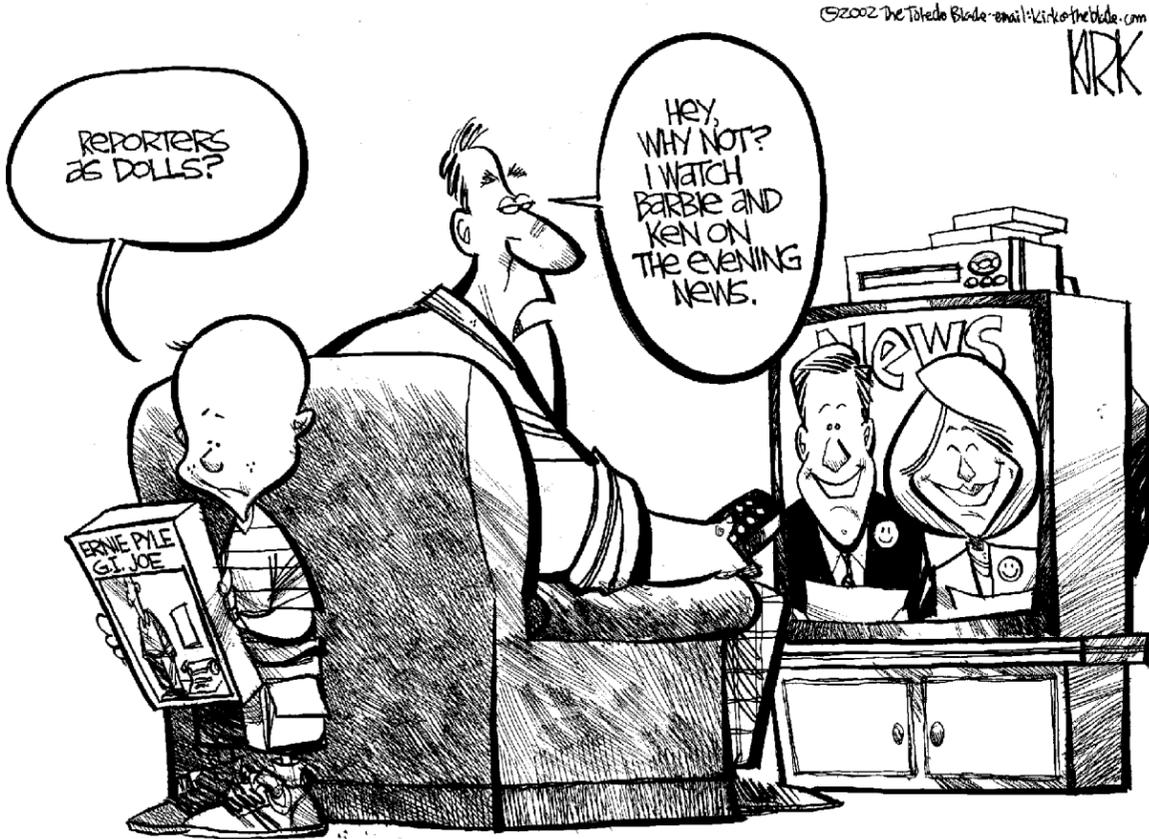
The White House is planning for U.S. military commanders to rule Iraq for "at least several months," says one source, when and if President Saddam Hussein

See REYES, Page 4

NEWS ITEM: 6 OUT OF 7 YOUNG AMERICANS CAN'T FIND IRAQ ON A MAP (WHICH IS A SOURCE OF AMUSEMENT FOR THE REST OF THE U.N. INSPECTION TEAM)



KIRK
©2002 The Toledo Blade
email: kirk@theblade.com



©2002 The Toledo Blade email: kirk@theblade.com

KIRK

For Sanity's Sake By Taprina Milburn

First born, last born

According to a research fact sheet published by Ohio State University, our position in our families — our birth order — may determine our expectations in life, the way we deal with people, and our weaknesses.

Other research said that parents of first-borns may tend to push them toward prestigious careers, such as doctors and lawyers, but are much more relaxed with last-born children, who tend to gravitate toward careers that are more artistic or outdoor oriented.

As a mom of two children, I've become a careful observer of the personalities of first children and second children. With the help of some friends with more than one child, I've compiled my very own unscientific findings on birth order.

First Born: Corn and peas cannot touch on a dinner plate.

Last Born: Will lick food off the counter.

First Born: Reserved and careful to weigh the outcome of information shared in a conversation.

Last Born: Will gather and share more information than anyone ever needs to know on a variety of topics, including what parents do or do not wear to bed at night.

First Born: Will wake up at 2 a.m. to brush her teeth if she forgot the night before.

Last Born: Mother has on occasion paid the plumber to fish out toothbrush that has clogged the toilet.

First Born: Parent frames birth certificate, labels first haircut in the scrapbook and files away finger paintings chronologically.

Last Born: Parent has to send off for copies of misplaced birth certificate, can't tell the difference between

the dog's hair and the second child's hair, and the finger paintings don't have to be filed away because they were painted directly on the living-room wall.

First Born: Show-and-tell is opportunity for her to discuss the geologic properties of rocks found while on vacation.

Last Born: Will grab a Pop Tart from the pantry and tell class about its eight essential vitamins.

First Born: Parent sees her as potential answer to all the world's problems: Perhaps she will discover a cure for cancer, be a great evangelist or help stop world hunger.

Last Born: Parents are certain God has sense of humor and has sent them their very own stand-up comedian who will one day host his own comedy show.

First Born: It's been a good day if she completed a class assignment and received an A-plus.

Last Born: It's been a good day if friends laughed while he made vulgar sounds with his armpits.

First Born: Careful to use manners when being introduced to people.

Second Born: Will stick pieces of paper napkin up his nose before he's introduced to someone.

It's my first born who pushes me to ask the important questions and dig deeper. She's the one I want in a doctor's office with me if I'm ever going over the facts before a major surgery. It's my last born who reminds me to lighten up and look for ways to laugh, the one I want with me in the recovery room, making jokes about the drafty hospital gown.

(c) 2003 King Features Synd., Inc.

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

Give the gift of life



This time of year is a busy one for all of us. The holiday season has come to a close. We've made our new year's resolutions and we're getting back into the swing of things. As you dash into 2003, I urge you to consider an extra new year's resolution: donate blood. The need is great, and the few minutes it takes may mean years of life for a sick or injured patient.

The good news is that millions of Americans voluntarily donate blood every year. The bad news is that this is not enough. Did you know that 60 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to give blood, but only five percent donates each year?

The demand for blood is constantly increasing, but the nation's blood banks simply can not keep up. According to the American Red Cross, the amount of blood needed by hospitals increased more than 15 percent in the past year. Maintaining an adequate amount of blood for surgeries, trauma victims and treatment of diseases is becoming a year-round problem.

What's worse is that donations traditionally slump during the Christmas holiday season. Colleges, schools and businesses that normally host blood drives close and families take vacations. An outbreak of the flu and bad weather can also affect donations. That means that the demand for blood is higher this time of year than in other

months. In order to avoid a critical shortage, more donors are needed. Donating blood is safe, painless and can save the lives of others. Any individual who is at least 17 years old and weigh 110 pounds or more can donate. Donating blood takes about 45 minutes to 1 hour, including 20 minutes for the actual blood collection. Type "O" blood is the most commonly used because it can be safely transfused to people of all blood types. You can give blood every eight weeks, but remember that with just one donation you could save a life.

There are many places where donations can be made. Bloodmobiles travel to high schools, colleges, churches, and other community organizations. People can also donate at community blood centers and hospital-based donor centers. Many people donate at blood drives at their workplace. To find out where you can donate, call the national Red Cross hotline at 800-GIVE-LIFE, America's Blood Centers at 888-256-6388, or the American Association of Blood Banks at 866-376-6968.

Every few seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. In the year 2003, make a resolution to give the gift of life: donate blood.

Red Cross hotline
800-GIVE-LIFE
America's Blood Centers
888-256-6388
American Association
of Blood Banks
866-376-6968

Thrifty Car Rental

Serving Far East El Paso I-10 at Horizon Exit

- Low Rates
- Insurance Replacements
- Warranty Replacements
- Free Pick-Up & Drop-Off
- Rate Programs Available

1367 Horizon Blvd.
(Premier Freightliner Sales Building)
(915) 852-7171

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

Sunday Morning Nursery Available

Non-Denominational
14802 Duanesburg • 852-3154

TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger Moore January 24, 1822, Jared Groce brings cottonseed to grow on his farm on the Brazos, it's the first in Texas.



Couple to celebrate half-century of marriage



EL PASO COUNTY — Richard and Mary Sue Moore of El Paso will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 31. Longtime residents of El Paso, the couple married in New Mexico during the early years of Richard Moore's military career. After his retirement at the rank of Lt. Colonel, he worked for El Paso Natural Gas. Mary Sue is a teacher. They are the parents of four children, including Vickie Newkirk of Horizon City, and have seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

County offers financial aid to small businesses during Business Fair Jan. 30

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — The Regional Economic Development Group of the County of El Paso, Texas and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) are jointly presenting the County of El Paso Business Fair Series.

The fairs will include SBA lenders and business partners who provide free assistance to small business owners or start-up businesses.

The first business fair in the series will take place on Thursday, Jan. 30, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Town of Clint at Surratt Elementary Gymnasium, 12675 Alameda. The business fair will include lenders who are interested in loaning money for small business and a presentation on the City/County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF Loan).

The County RLF loan may assist businesses who are applying for loans but who have not been successful because of equity requirements to help secure the loan. The RLF loan helps by providing additional funds by offering a low interest rate loan with a five year repayment term.

"Business owners should take advantage of this program since all funds will be lost in May 2003 if the RLF loan program is not utilized by this time," said Melodya Salaces, Economic Development Coordinator for the County.

There is no cost to attend and refreshments will be served. For more information and directions call Jessica Garza, Town of Clint at (915) 851-3146 or Melodya Salaces, County of El Paso, Texas (915) 543-3845 ext 4077.

Track

From Page 1

because of the rocky, unpaved surface of the track.

Other residents who turned out for the event echoed Franco.

Enrique Pacheco, 65, says he walks three miles a day, every day for his health. "I feel good after exercising."

"I enjoy walking," said Rebecca Rivera who walks four miles a day around the track. "It was needed, especially for students and the community." With the refurbished track, she feels there is more pride in the community.

"I want to thank the people who built this track."

Ernestine Fierro summed it up. "We needed it bad."

Ortega said the resurfacing project cost \$82,000 and began three weeks before Christmas.

The cookies that make dreams come true.



When you buy Girl Scout cookies, you buy a world of opportunity for girls in our community.

Order cookies today from a Girl Scout in your neighborhood or call Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande

Cookie Hotline at 566-1558!

Support our military service men and women by purchasing an extra box or two to send to troops stationed overseas. Call Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande at 566-9433 or ask a Girl Scout who comes to your door about this special way to support our heroes.



To be a Girl Scout or to volunteer, call 566-9433 or visit www.gsriogrande.org

Perspective

From Page 2

sections of our "delicate desert" being ripped apart to build houses that stand so close together that no natural plant could possibly grow between.

What I see are development projects of enormous magnitude bringing into an already water-strapped community thousands upon thousands of people, who will also be asked to use no water so that thousands upon thousands more houses can be sold.

What I see is an unwillingness of the powers that be to actually enforce

laws and exercise policy that would make a difference on a large scale. Instead they seem to become more and more focused on attempting to regulate and whittle away at the individual and private property owner's right to pull up or plant a cactus, get a drink of water, draw a breath of fresh air.

It seems something of a paradox that these powers can rise up in indignation over the harvesting of cactus that will be re-planted or the number of minutes I spend in the shower, while turning a blind eye to on-going development that swallows up the landscape like a cancer and drains the water resources like a thirsty giant with a straw.

Reyes

From Page 2

exits. But long-term predictions see U.S. soldiers engaged indefinitely during Iraqi reconstruction.

A native "civilian administration" will be hustled together ASAP, but thousands of American troops will be counted on to hold things together.

Actual Iraqi control of the country would not occur for at least a year and likely longer, say the most optimistic planners.

The main mission for U.S. forces is to protect Iraqi oil and curtail internal fighting and old vendettas. Lt. Gen. David McKiernan, the commander of troops entering Iraq, is

seen as remaining in charge of ground troops inside the country.

Any forecast for smooth sailing ignores that the 24 million Iraqis constitute one of the most explosive populations in the Middle East cauldron.

United Nations officials estimate that 60 percent of Iraq's citizens would be in upheaval if war breaks out — underscoring the problem for supplying food and other essentials which would also be overseen by the U.S. military.

American troops will also land the job of fixing roads, bridges and water and electricity supplies, while also enforcing Iraq's borders.

Iraq's vast oil deposits will pay the costs of repair and reconstruction.

The challenge is colossal. And so are the risks.

Classified Ads

LEGALS

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT Invitation to Bid/Respond:

Competitive sealed proposals for providing all labor and materials for the construction of the Career and Technology Education Building at Americas High School. Proposal package will be received at Socorro Independent School District, 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until 3:30 p.m., local time, Monday, Feb. 3, 2003, at which time the identity of the respondents will be publicly read aloud.

Proposals shall be addressed to Socorro Inde-

pendent School District; all proposals must be sealed and clearly marked as follows:

• Career and Technology Education Building at Americas High School, CSP No. 199-0203-0304 RB

Bidders may obtain proposal documents starting Monday, Jan. 20, 2003 by contacting:

ARTchitecture
1204 Montana Ave.
El Paso, Texas 79902
Attn: Mr. Perez
Phone: (915) 533-0052
Fax: (915) 532-0384

Proposal Deposit is refundable \$150 per set in the form of a cashiers check or certified check payable to Socorro Inde-

pendent School District.

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

A pre-proposal conference will be held on Monday, Jan. 27, 2003, beginning at 10 a.m. at Americas High School located at 12101 Pellicano Drive, El Paso, Texas 79936. The conference is not mandatory but encouraged.
WTCC-01/23/03

Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, Inc. Invitation to Bid

Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, Inc. is soliciting bids for the

manual application of pink bollworm pheromone ropes. Ropes will be tied to cotton plants at an approximate rate of 200 ropes per acre at certain stages of growth. A minimum of 40 persons over a four-week period will be needed for this field activity. Applications of ropes in the El Paso and Trans Pecos areas will begin in late May or early June. Bidders must furnish the Foundation Workers Compensation coverage prior to contract approval. Bids will be accepted through Feb. 7, 2003. For more information and detailed instructions please contact the local Foundation office at (877) 765-2139 or the Foundation Headquarters at (800) 687-1212, Ext. 3124.

WTCC-1/23/03

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

HORIZON DESIGN CONSULTANTS will hold two studio classes this spring entitled Graphic Design: Creating a Dialogue. Part One will be March 18-22; Part Two April 1-5. This is a 30-hour foundational level course introducing concepts and techniques used by graphic artists to create effective visual works. For more information call 852-4817.
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 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

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.

SERVICES

"Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring" JIFFY GLASS REPAIR
Windshield Repair Specialists
By appt. at your home or office:
R.V. Dick Harshberger
915-852-9082

BERT'S AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR
Domestic and Foreign
852-3523

1558 Oxbow, Horizon City

HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079

• Electric roter service for sewers and drains
• Appliance installation
• Many other plumbing services
Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.

AL'S PLACE, INC.
Household or Commercial Storage and Yard Space
Fenced and Lighted Security System
No Deposit
418 Kenazo, Horizon City
852-3949

Rezoning approved to allow for new gas station in Horizon City

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

HORIZON CITY — As the population in Horizon City grows, so do the needs of its citizens. Horizon City may soon see construction of a second gas station, this time in the Horizon Heights area.

During the December regularly scheduled Horizon City Council meeting, a recommendation was made by Planning and Zoning Commission on the rezoning for the Southwest corner of Eastlake Blvd. at the intersection of Darrington Road from R-2 Residential to C-1 Commercial.

The item was tabled in order to research some concerns brought up by members of City Council. One concern was the close proximity of its location to Horizon Heights El-

ementary School and the probability for a service station to be built on that location that would be selling alcohol and tobacco products.

The rezoning surfaced again at this month's regularly scheduled City Council meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 14, but these concerns were not brought up. It was mentioned the owners of this land are interested in building a Diamond Shamrock service station at the site that would also be a convenience store and sell fast food, similar to other Diamond Shamrock Convenience stores.

The new I-10 and Eastlake exchange being constructed and soon to be completed promises to bring much more traffic through the Eastlake area, making it attractive for business people to capitalize on the opportunity. City Council approved the recommendation from Planning

and Zoning, making the site C-1 commercial.

In other business, City Council received a recommendation from Planning and Zoning on the rezoning of the Southern portion of Section 43, Block 78, Township 3 from M-1 Industrial to R-9 Single Family Residential. David Ballard, land developer in the area, spoke to City Council on this issue and explained he is currently also in the process of preliminary negotiations with the Clint Independent School District to build a new school in the area. City Council approved the recommendation.

The item to adopt and revise a new personnel manual and compensation plan was tabled since Mayor Pat Randleel needs to meet with City Council members and Department Heads on any questions that may arise before the manual can be completed.

Briefs

From Page 1

is being organized by Horizon City's Economic Development Committee, in cooperation with Sen. Eliot Shapleigh. The purpose is to look at ways of improving the area's economic base, and to formulate a strategy to guide future economic development. For information call Vince Murphy at HCIA, 852 1811.

In other news

■ The Bill Sybert School, named for the late Bill Sybert who served as Socorro ISD Superintendent from 1982 to 1987, held formal dedication ceremonies on Jan. 17. Located at 11530 Edgemere, the school opened to more than 1,000 students in July of last summer. The high-tech campus has five computer labs and has adopted the motto of "Questing for Excellence."

■ Clint High School Library will offer free technology workshops every Tuesday and Thursday, 6-8 p.m. beginning Jan. 28. All participants must have a Clint ISD Public Library card. For information call 851-2302.

■ Two Socorro ISD educators have been invited to make presentations at the "Hearing Every Voice" international conference of "Teachers of English for Speakers of Other Languages" in March in Baltimore, Maryland. Rosanne Thompson of Robert R. Rojas Elementary and Eduardo Honold of Escontrias Early Childhood Center serve in the Socorro district's Family Literacy program. They will be presenting — along with two other widely-recognized language experts — information about using technology to teach adult learners. Dr. Heide Spruck-Wrigley and Jim Powrie, with whom the presentations will be made, will visit Socorro ISD this month to exam-

ine Socorro's programs.

■ Several Clint ISD campuses in the Horizon area are sponsoring a presentation on Tuesday, Jan. 28, in the Horizon Middle School cafeteria to inform parents about the District's graduation requirements. This event, offered in both English and Spanish, will begin at 6 p.m. and is sponsored by Horizon Middle, Carroll T. Welch Intermediate, and Desert Hills and Frank Macias Elementary schools. Information: 852-4744.

■ Nominations will close on Feb. 17 for youth soccer players for the USIS Memorial Youth Soccer Scholarships, ranging from \$400 to \$2000 per player. Soccer coaches may nominate players to compete internationally. Players with birth year between 1984 to 1990 may be nominated at <http://www.usport.us/scholarship>. TeamUSA/Youth funds the scholarships and more information is available at <http://teamusayouth.org>.

■ Socorro High School bassoonist Rene Anthony Encina and Montwood High School trumpeter Rebecca Rodriguez are scheduled to play for the Texas Music Educators' Association's convention in San Antonio on Feb. 15 as a result of competitive auditions. Encina, coached by SHS band director Brian Bell, also plays trombone, oboe and baritone saxophone, and sings in the choir. Rodriguez, under the guidance of Montwood assistant band director Tim Jackson, also plays bugle and toured with Colorado's Blue Knights Drum and Bugle Corps last summer.

■ Clint High School will present the highly-rated "Making College Count" free of charge for the senior class and their parents/guardians at 1 p.m. on Feb. 26. The presentation is designed to help students begin to consider their next steps in education, choosing career paths, experience through internships, and maximizing time man-

agement. Key content for the presentation can be reviewed online at <http://www.makingitcount.com>. For information, call 851-3895 or (513) 772-1188.

■ The 40th Annual Coin show of the International Coin Club of El Paso will be Feb. 21-23 at the Vista Del Sol Conference Center, 11189 Rojas Drive in El Paso. Over 50 coin dealers will buy and sell. Tokens, stamps, medals will also be considered. Show hours are 1-6 p.m. Feb. 21; 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 22; and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 23. There are 90 members in the El Paso Chapter and they meet the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Mike and Anna's Mexican Restaurant, 1850 Trawood. Information: 594-1818.

■ Texas Cooperative Extension and the 4-H program has been selected to represent El Paso County as the local lead agency for the National Youth Service Day (NYSD) which, for the past 15 years, has been the largest service event in the country and the world to focus attention on the leadership of young people. The TCE and 4-H Clubs will be recruiting and organizing individuals, groups, schools and non-profit organizations to decide on what the project will be, ranging from literacy and the environment, to healthcare, hunger or help for the elderly. The first NYSD youth team meeting will be Saturday, Jan. 25 at the TCE office, 1030 N. Zaragosa, Ste. A for everyone interested in becoming involved. Information: 859-7725 or visit <http://elpasotaex.tamu.edu/4h/NYSD>.

■ Loans for beginning farmers and ranchers are currently available through the Farm Service Agency for those unable to obtain financing from commercial credit sources. For information and eligibility guidelines call (915) 336-5206, ext. 2, or log on at www.fsa.usda.gov.

PUBLIC MEETING

The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) of the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will hold a **PUBLIC MEETING on FRIDAY, January 24, 2003, at 9:00 A.M., at Ardovino's Desert Crossing, 1 Ardovino Drive, Sunland Park, NM, 88063**, to discuss the following agenda:

1. Call to Order Chair.
2. Approval of Minutes for December 20, 2002 Chair.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The Transportation Policy Board encourages public comment on all matters listed under the **PUBLIC COMMENT** section of the agenda. Speakers from the audience will be given an opportunity to discuss each item in the order in which it appears on the agenda unless otherwise approved by the board. In addition, the Transportation Policy Board retains the option to set reasonable limits on the number, frequency, and length of presentations.

3. Discussion and Action to Accept the Recommendations of the Executive Committee Rep. Joe Pickett regarding the Following Items:
 - a. Approval of a Short List of Transportation Projects Under \$10 million and Over \$10 million for Funding Consideration in the next Transportation Reauthorization Bill Beginning FY 2004;
 - b. Authorize the TPB Chair to Sign a Local Transportation Project Advance Funding Agreement (\$600,000) with the Texas Department of Transportation.
4. Status Report by the AdHoc Committee Regarding the IH-10 Emergency Management Plan Lt. Ray Resendez.
5. Discussion and Action to Amend the 2025 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (2025) by Pat Aduato Adding the Regional Intermodal Rail Project, a Feasibility Study and Implementation Plan Addressing the Long-Range Development of a Rail Transport System and its Associated Facilities within the Region.
6. Discussion and Action to Approve the Submission of a Request for Federal Demonstration Pat Aduato Funds as a Line Item under the TEA-21 Reauthorization Bill for Preparation of a Feasibility Study and Implementation Plan for the Regional Intermodal Rail Project in the Amount of \$1,000,000.
7. Discussion and Action to Approve the Submission of a Multi-Year Funding Request (amount Pat Aduato to be determined) for the Regional Intermodal Rail Project as a Generic Provision in the TEA-21 Reauthorization Bill.
8. Discussion and Action Authorizing the TPB Chair and MPO Executive Director to Roy Gilyard sign all agreements, and necessary related documents as to content, between the City of El Paso (as the MPO fiscal agent) and other public/private sector entities to formulate and implement the Camino Real Corridor-Border Improvement Plan Study.
9. Discussion and Action of the MPO Annual Listing of Projects Obligated in FY 2002 Charlene Santistevan.

OPEN COMMENT PERIOD

At the conclusion of all other agenda items, the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) will allow an open comment period, not to exceed one hour, to receive public comment on any other matter that is under the jurisdiction of the TPB. No action will be taken. Each speaker in the audience will be allowed a maximum of three minutes. Speakers must be signed up prior to the beginning of the open comment period. For more information, please contact Linda Gaucin at the MPO Office at (915)591-9735, Ext. 11.

10. Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Transportation Policy Board is scheduled at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 28, 2003 at the El Paso MPO Office Board Room.
11. Adjournment.

Sign Language interpreters will be provided for this meeting upon request. Requests must be made to this department at a minimum of 24 hours prior to the date and time of the meeting. Copies of this Agenda will be provided in Braille, large print or audiotape upon request. Request must be made a minimum of 48 hours prior to the date and time of the meeting.

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: 01/23/03

Aye matey: Swashbucklers in the 'Bowl, two athletes circle the bowl

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

You don't have to worry about who you're going to pick for the Super Bowl. Those of you who make that call to your local bookie, and you know who you are, can relax about your Super Bowl bet.

I will tell you today who will win the game and why.

First of all, let's discuss the particulars. The Tampa Bay Bucs are playing in their first world championship game. The Oakland Raiders are playing in their first Super Bowl in 22 years. So neither team has an edge there.

Both teams are from opposite ends of the United States but both usually play in warm weather and this year's game is in San Diego so no edge there.

Both teams represent swash-buckling bad boys of the high seas. Both teams feel the same way about a yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum so no advantage there.

Oakland is known for its offense, particularly its passing offense. Tampa Bay is known for its defense, particularly the way they hit on defense so we have a standoff there.

The biggest storyline of this game seems to be the meeting between the Raiders and their former coach Jon Gruden. This is where the game will turn.

The intangible will be with the Bucs. Gruden has found a way to turn Tampa's offense as formidable as its defense. Most people believe the Raiders will win this game because, well — they're the Raiders.

But the much-maligned Bucs will win this game with a tenacious defense, a solid offense, and Jon Gruden, who will out-coach new Raiders boss Bill Callahan

And besides — Jon "Chucky" Gruden just looks more like a pirate.

Cowboy arrested

The Dallas Cowboys are busy going through the motions of installing a new regime — the Bill Parcell's regime.

Some changes have already taken place. Unfortunately, one thing that has plagued the organization since the end of the Tom Landry era hasn't changed.

Controversy has hit the Cowboys again.

And this time it's even more serious than usual. Defensive back Dwayne Goodrich is not thinking about football anymore. That's because he has been charged with two counts of manslaughter.

Goodrich hit three people and killed two as they were trying to help a man from a burning car on a Dallas freeway. Goodrich do not stop his car and return to the site of the incident.

Goodrich's hit-and-run followed an accident in which a car had just rear-ended a disabled

tractor trailer rig and caught fire. A person from the burning car got out and began to try and free the driver. Two men in another vehicle pulled over and ran to assist, according to police.

Police reports say that one man was dragged 155 feet by Goodrich's BMW.

Witnesses say that Goodrich was seen at a topless nightclub a couple hours before the accident. Investigation is still going to determine whether alcohol played a part.

Will these guys ever learn?

Trailblazin' bad boy

Experts in the field say that human beings learn things through past experiences.

If something they do correctly gets rewarded, they would tend to repeat it. By the same token if someone does something incorrectly and they are penalized, they would tend to change their behavior.

If all that is true, and I believe it is for most normal people, then what the heck is wrong with the Portland Trailblazers' Rasheed Wallace?

Wallace, who has a long history of the type of behavior that would make Bart Simpson proud, was at it again last week.

Seems Wallace didn't like the fact that yet another technical foul was called on him during his game against the Memphis Grizzlies.

Wallace couldn't understand that he

shouldn't have thrown the ball back at the referee the aggressive way he did. His childish behavior was no different than it has been in the past.

The difference this time was that Wallace's hostility and the childish behavior didn't end there.

After the game in the private parking lot where the players and team personnel park their cars, Wallace confronted referee Tim Donaghy and allegedly threatened him there.

The NBA, which has finally grown tired of Rasheed's acts, suspended him for seven games without pay. That means that Wallace's latest tantrum will cost him \$1.26-million.

Equally as bad as Wallace's threat of a NBA referee was coach Maurice Cheeks' reaction to the event. Cheeks called the suspension unfair. He said that he was only suspended because of his reputation and his past violations.

I have three words for Cheeks. "No kidding coach!"

It's precisely because of Wallace's years of appalling behavior that his wallet is taking such a hit this time.

The NBA is tired of all the technical fouls, suspensions, violations and arrests.

Maybe Rasheed Wallace should go into another line of work. Let me think — I know! — he can be an actor. Maybe he can co-star in the next Austin Powers movie as Dr. Evil's slow-witted partner in crime, Mini-Mind.

Disease deadly to poultry and birds has now spread to Nevada

AUSTIN — Nevada officials Thursday afternoon announced that Exotic Newcastle Disease (END), a foreign animal disease deadly to birds and poultry, has been confirmed in a flock of 30 chickens near Las Vegas.

Since October 2002, when it was detected in the U.S., the outbreak of this highly contagious viral disease had been confined to Southern California.

Animal health officials are warning bird and poultry owners to comply with movement prohibitions on birds and related products from the quarantined areas in California and Nevada.

"Fortunately, Nevada has no commercial poultry operations, so this

disease situation may be limited," said Dr. James Lenarduzzi, acting executive director for the Texas Animal Health Commission, Texas' livestock and poultry health regulatory agency. "To stop the spread of disease, state and federal regulatory personnel have imposed restrictions on the movement of birds and poultry products in an affected area. END-infected and exposed birds and flocks must be euthanized and disposed of properly. The premises then must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected to ensure the virus has been killed."

In Southern California, the federal quarantine has been expanded to eight counties, explained Dr. Lenarduzzi. Nearly 1,250 noncom-

mercial flocks and five commercial poultry operations in this area have been infected or exposed to END. As of mid-January, he said more than 150,000 birds have been euthanized, and another 1.5 million birds are slated for depopulation.

"END does not pose a threat to humans or to food, but it is a foreign animal disease that is deadly for nearly all species of birds," said Dr. Lenarduzzi, "END likely was initially introduced into Southern California through illegal importation of infected birds."

For information or to report concerns, bird owners may call the Texas Animal Health Commission, which takes emergency calls 24 hours a day, at 1-800-550-8242.

DPS cold case unit breaks third murder case, offers help to other agencies

AUSTIN — The DPS Unsolved Crimes Investigation Team has solved its third case since its formation in March of 2002 and the unit is offering its services to other law enforcement agencies that have unsolved crimes.

Last week, 44-year-old Ronald Eby was arrested and charged with the murder of 42-year-old Roland Cevera. Cevera was found beaten to death at his residence in southern Bexar County in April of 1998. The suspect Eby is married to the victim's ex-wife.

The arrest was the culmination of a six-month investigation by the Texas Rangers Unsolved Crimes Unit and the Bexar County Sheriff Department. New DNA evidence was discovered and analyzed by the

Bexar County Crime Lab, resulting in a positive link to Eby. He was arrested without incident Jan. 8 and charged with murder. He has since posted bond.

Law enforcement agencies who are interested in having the team examine old cases should contact Ranger Lt. Gary De Los Santos at 210-531-4351 for details in submitting unsolved cases.

The Texas Legislature approved creation of the San Antonio-based team last session in a bill introduced by State Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos and State Rep. Helen Giddings. The Governor's Criminal Justice Division provided additional grant money that helped get the unit operational.

King Super Crossword

SUPER CROSSWORD ACROSS

- 1 Los __, CA
- 6 Shakespeare heroine
- 12 "Ballou" (65 film)
- 15 Bribe
- 18 '01 Audrey Tautou film
- 20 Drifting
- 21 He gives a hoot
- 22 "Tarzan" extra
- 23 Let up
- 24 Riddle: Part 1
- 27 Fashion monogram
- 28 Beethoven's birthplace
- 30 Highest card
- 31 Japanese city
- 32 Ashbrook or Carvey
- 33 "Taxi" star
- 37 Savage
- 39 Throbbled
- 42 Jazzman Dave
- 44 Compote component
- 45 Word with dance or dunk
- 46 Conflict site
- 47 Generosity
- 51 Riddle: Part 2
- 56 Cornfield cry
- 57 Turkish title
- 58 Indo-European
- 59 Pro foe
- 60 Cable channel
- 61 "Love Story" author
- 63 Bestow
- 66 " _ of the North" ('22 film)
- 69 Botch
- 71 Ornamental material
- 75 Sheds
- 76 Cashew kin
- 78 Alpha opposite
- 79 It multiplies by dividing
- 81 Runner Sebastian
- 82 Choir member
- 84 Tennyson's "Enoch "
- 86 Houston or Huff
- 89 _ Arbor, MI
- 90 Riddle: Part 3
- 95 '74 Abba hit
- 97 Moshe of Israel
- 98 Annoy
- 99 Journalist Jacob
- 100 Part of FBI
- 102 Sapphire surface
- 103 Lysander's home
- 106 Delight
- 107 Obote's oyster
- 109 European capital
- 110 JFK abbr.
- 111 Candid
- 112 Burglarize
- 115 Answer to riddle
- 122 Where to find a fence
- 124 Delivery truck
- 125 Help
- 126 Rococo
- 127 Dieter's portion
- 128 Meadow mama

DOWN

- 1 Player or Puckett
- 2 Leon of "Mister Ed"
- 3 Reveal
- 4 Barcelona bravo
- 5 Seafaring storyteller
- 6 Pestiferous person
- 7 Mistaken
- 8 "Treasure Island" monogram
- 9 One _ customer
- 10 Charleson or Carmichael
- 11 Storm
- 12 Cryptanalyst's concern
- 13 Impress immensely
- 14 RN's specialty
- 15 '78 Peace Nobel
- 16 Glass work
- 17 Piano part
- 19 Short jacket
- 25 Rhine whine
- 26 Harden
- 29 Apprehend
- 32 Actress Moore
- 33 Part of HOMES
- 34 "Yeah, sure!"
- 35 Tahoe town
- 36 Injury aftereffect
- 37 "White Christmas" composer

- 38 Fad
- 39 Movie mutt
- 40 Drain problem
- 41 Aggravation
- 43 Sita's spouse
- 44 Covenant
- 47 Panelist Paul
- 48 SAT part
- 49 Wooden shoe
- 50 Lucas critters
- 52 Philistine deity
- 53 Precambrian _
- 54 Auel heroine
- 55 Light wagon
- 62 Maestro de Waart
- 63 Vigoda or Fortas
- 64 Witty one
- 65 Botanist Gray
- 67 Correct
- 68 British big shot
- 69 Tropical screecher
- 70 Actress Massey
- 72 Government game
- 73 Out of control
- 74 Pianist Lupu
- 77 Showy flower
- 80 With 121 Down, famed Giant
- 83 Vientiane's nation
- 84 Mindful
- 85 Barrett or Jaffe
- 87 Competent
- 88 TV's " _ the Press"
- 90 Decree
- 91 " _ fixe"
- 92 Nothing, in Navarra
- 93 Colors
- 94 Neighbor of Paki-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18				19		20					21			22				
23					24					25			26					
27				28	29					30			31					
			32				33	34	35	36			37	38				
39	40	41			42	43					44							
45						46				47				48	49	50		
51				52	53	54				55					56			
57				58						59					60			
		61	62						63	64	65			66	67	68		
69	70					71	72	73				74		75				
76					77		78					79	80					
81					82	83					84	85			86	87	88	
89					90				91	92	93				94			
95				96					97						98			
					99				100			101		102				
103	104	105					106					107	108					
109							110					111				112	113	114
115					116	117				118	119	120	121		122	123		
124					125				126						127			
128					129				130							131		

Fly me (or my business card) to the moon

By Don Flood

"Very Now. Very Cool. Very You," the junk mail offer said.

How could I not agree? "Make an impression with your new Pre-Approved Discover Platinum Card — with no annual fee and a unique clear design."

Unique clear design. Hmmm, think maybe they're running out of ways to market credit cards?

But there's more in our mailbag, including: *a foolproof plan to get rich in the stock market!*

The following is an actual letter: "I want to show you the easy, proven, risk-free way you could turn \$300 into \$218,700.00 in the next six months."

Fabulous! In fairness, a note at the bottom did explain how this was possible: "\$300 invested in a stock that triples every month for six months."

Sounds great! This would have been a tough sell in March 2000, before the market tanked, back when you could pick words at random out of a dictionary, tack ".com" to the end and have a company worth more

than General Motors.

But since we've just ended the third year with the stock market in the hopper, when it seems the most innovative new venture is the Hooters airline, maybe the following spiel might be more likely to attract shell-shocked investors:

"I want to show you the easy, proven, risk-free way you could take \$300 and invest it so that at the end of six months *you still have \$300!*"

Not that there aren't good ways to invest your money.

TransOrbital Inc. is offering a new service sure to tempt the business executive who dares to dream big.

For just \$2,500 this company, based in California (surprise!), will deliver your business card to the moon!

According to the absolutely true news story, the company already has "thousands of orders to deliver jewelry, business cards and human remains to the moon's surface."

But before you rush to place your order, here's something to consider: let's say you spend \$20,000 putting a few business cards on the moon.

You tell your friends and they're pretty impressed, because the only business cards they have out are in

those restaurant bowls, where they pick one each month and the winner gets a half-priced appetizer.

You think you're hot stuff, but the unexpected happens: your phone number changes or your office moves or you get a new email address.

Your lunar business cards are out of date!

You could even get canned! What would you say to your boss then?

"Hey, things are looking up! I've got business cards on the moon now. No calls yet, but I hope to be making new contacts *throughout* our solar system. And, as you know, just one big intergalactic account could really turn things around."

Nope, you'll be out on the street, with no reimbursement, and when that Big Extraterrestrial Account finally reaches you at home, you'll have to say, "Oh, I'm sorry, I can't help you. I don't work for them anymore."

If you really want to impress people, you might want to consider that "unique clear design" Discover credit card instead.

(c) 2003 King Features Synd., Inc.

Clint youngster's honesty sets shining example

CLINT — Selena Aguilar is a good girl, a good daughter, says her mother, Socorro Aguilar, and her recent example of honesty proves that her mother's opinion is true.

On Dec. 24, while shopping at the Wal-Mart on Americas Ave., Selena found three one hundred bills, obviously misplaced by another shopper. Without hesitation, she set out to turn in the \$300 to the store's lost and found department.

"It was the right thing to do," she said. "This (might have been) someone else's Christmas."

The temptation to simply pocket the unattended cash apparently never entered her equation of honesty, a fact that makes her counselor at Surratt Elementary "ecstatic."

"Even though Selena is only in the 5th grade she clearly understands what is right and what is wrong and she didn't hesitate in making the right decision," said Martha Payne. "We teach the 'Character Counts' program here at Surratt, and one of the 'pillars' of the program is honesty. Selena

is a fine example of that.

"I couldn't be more pleased and proud. I'm just ecstatic about what she did."

Selena had no way knowing at the time that her story would have a particularly happy ending. After she made her decision and turned the money in to Wal-Mart management, she was informed that if it went unclaimed for a specified number of days, it would be given back to her.

It went unclaimed. The Wal-Mart staff, clearly impressed with Selena, also gave the youngster a \$25 reward.

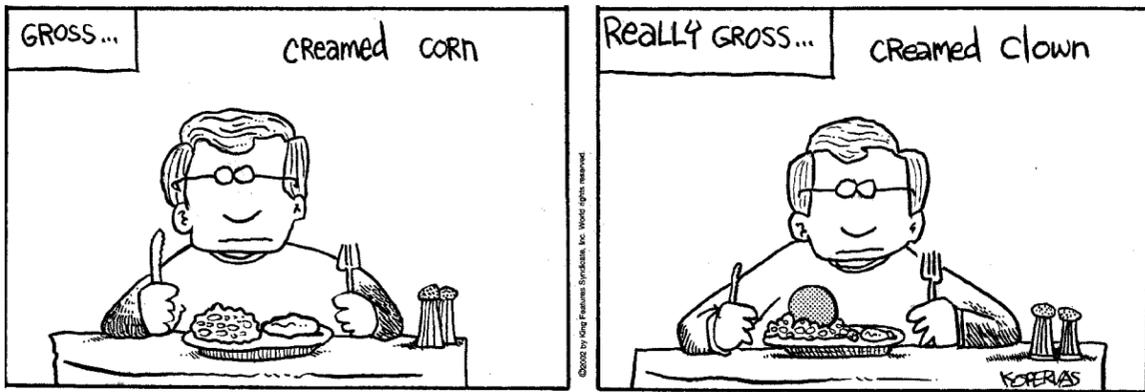
Unaware that what she had done was unusual, Selena didn't tell her school counselor about the event, but word got around from other sources.

"I'd like to thank Mrs. (Helen) Rojas from Clint Middle School for giving Selena attention for this," Socorro Aguilar said.

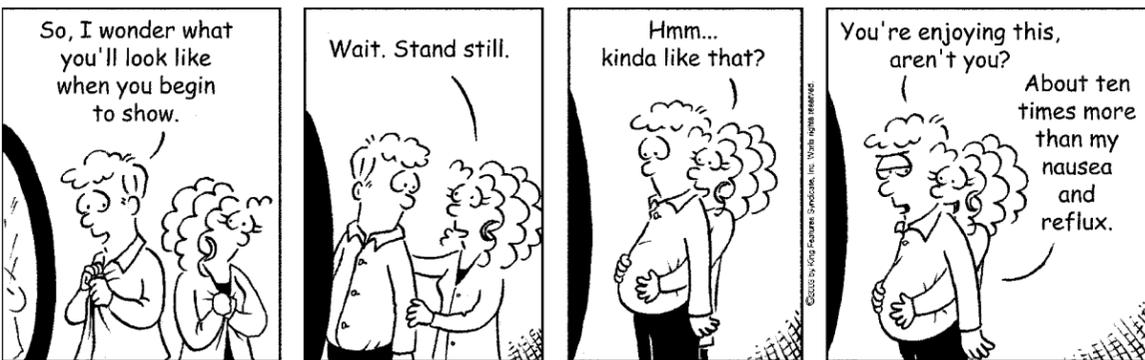
Clearly Ricardo and Socorro Aguilar have much to be proud of in their daughter, who has three sisters. "She is an A-B student," Socorro said. "She likes books."

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



Canutillo celebrates school board recognition month

January is School Board Recognition Month and Canutillo ISD is joining other districts throughout the state to recognize the important contributions school board members make to their communities. A special presentation will be made to recognize the Canutillo ISD Board of Trustees during the Board's next regular monthly meeting at 6 p.m., Jan. 22, at Canutillo ISD Administration Building Boardroom. "Even though we are making a special effort during January to show appreciation to our school board members, we recognize their contributions reflect a year-round commitment on their part," said Charles Hart, Canutillo ISD superintendent. Canutillo Board members are: Yvonne Sanchez, president; Margarito (Mago) Arellano, vice president; Laure Searls, secretary; Sergio Coronado, Gonzalo (Chalo) Garcia, Charley Hecker, and Joe Villarreal.



Charles Hart



Brashears to entertain at First Baptist in Horizon

HORIZON CITY — Janice and Jarell Brashears will present a concert at the First Baptist Church at 17018 Darrington Rd. in Horizon City on Friday, Jan. 31, at 7 p.m. From Russellville, Arkansas, the Brashears have criss-crossed the U.S. singing with their family for over 30 years. Jerrel Brashears has been inducted into the International Gospel Music Hall of Fame as a result. Admission is free. Information: 852-3027.

Phamiliar phrases

"labor of love" This phrase indicates work that is done for the pleasure of it, or for the benefit of a loved one. Its use stems from the Biblical passage that mentions 'your work of faith and labor of love' (1 Thess. 1:3).

© 2003 King Features Syndicate, Inc.



Clint mayor and council emphasize community involvement in awards presentation

CLINT — Town of Clint Mayor Charles Gonzalez presented awards to local businesses and volunteers during the Town Council meet-

ing Jan. 14. Recipients participated in the annual Mission Trail Luminaria event Dec. 14 in conjunc-

tion with the Mission Trail Association. Over 1200 luminarias were placed along FM 1110 from North Loop to Hansard St.

Mayor Gonzalez stated that without the help of local businesses and volunteers these types of events would not be possible. Donors not present to receive their awards were West Texas Propane, El Paso Connection, First Baptist Church of Clint, Kwik-N-Eze Store and T&R Chemicals. Volunteer groups not present were Clint Junior High School NJHS, Clint High School Student Council and San Lorenzo Church Youth Confirmation students.

Citizenship Awards were presented to Daisy Martinez, Lisa Eveler, Alejandra Rivera, Jenny Nelson, Jennifer Solis, Hugo Reyes, Eric Hurtado, Aldo Reyes, Robert Garza, Alex Cardona, Richie Ortega, Jorge Cardone, Danny Acuna and Jon Ray Martinez.

THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE — Town of Clint thanks those who participated in community event. Top row, left to right: First National Bank of Fabens Jimmy Onick, Good Time Store Supervisor Olga Grijalva, Flicks Pizza Owner Armando Baca, Justice of the Peace Pct. 6 Judge Ruben Lujan, Clint High School JROTC First Sgt. (Ret.) Gil Kelly, Clint High School JROTC Color Guard members Daisy Martinez, Hugo Reyes and Eric Hurtado Bottom Row: Alderman Ed Prado, Mayor Charles Gonzalez, Alderman Frank Montes, Alderman Steven Cheatum and Alderman Henry Franco.



WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Sunny to partly cloudy and nice.	Patched clouds.	Partly sunny and pleasant.	Mostly sunny.	Sunny and warm.	Sunny to partly cloudy and warm.	Partly sunny.	Sun and some clouds.
▲ 62°	▼ 34°	▲ 60° ▼ 32°	▲ 62° ▼ 36°	▲ 64° ▼ 36°	▲ 66° ▼ 38°	▲ 64° ▼ 34°	▲ 60° ▼ 32°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	4	Low
Friday	4	Low
Saturday	4	Low
Sunday	5	Moderate
Monday	5	Moderate
Tuesday	4	Low
Wednesday	4	Low

REAL FEEL TEMP™

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

Thursday	57°
Friday	49°
Saturday	48°
Sunday	50°
Monday	60°
Tuesday	65°
Wednesday	49°

AGRICULTURE

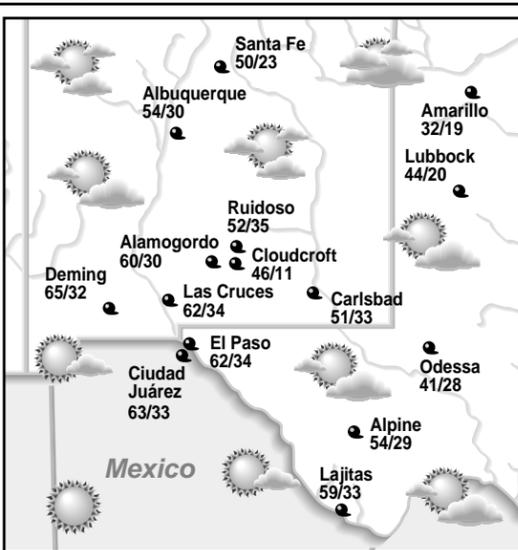
Tranquil weather is expected across the region over the next few days. There will be 5-7 hours of sunshine today, then a bit less sunshine Friday as a disturbance moves overhead. Generally light winds will be the rule both days. Mainly dry and mild to warm weather will continue across the region this weekend and into early next week.

All forecasts and maps provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2003

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	63	37
Canutillo	64	38
Clint	61	38
E. Montana	62	34
Fabens	61	38
Horizon	64	38
San Elizario	61	35
Socorro	62	34
Tornillo	61	38
Vinton	64	38

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



TRAVELERS CITIES

City	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	54/30/pc	56/29/pc	55/32/pc	57/31/s	58/33/s
Atlanta	30/13/pc	34/18/s	42/26/s	48/35/pc	55/33/s
Atlantic City	20/12/c	24/12/pc	29/20/s	34/23/s	38/12/s
Austin/San Antonio	45/31/pc	52/34/pc	56/39/pc	60/42/r	65/39/pc
Baltimore	24/6/pc	22/8/pc	28/16/s	34/20/s	38/17/pc
Boston	16/4/pc	14/8/pc	22/14/s	28/16/s	32/12/pc
Chicago	12/-2/sf	18/6/pc	26/14/sf	20/10/pc	18/6/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	35/25/pc	45/31/pc	53/37/pc	56/39/pc	62/40/s
Denver	42/18/pc	46/24/s	52/26/pc	55/32/s	51/24/c
Flagstaff	54/25/pc	52/22/s	52/24/pc	53/21/s	54/24/s
Houston	52/36/pc	53/40/pc	58/40/pc	62/44/sh	65/44/pc
Kansas City	12/2/pc	20/18/sf	38/26/sf	36/24/c	37/29/pc
Las Vegas	66/44/pc	66/42/s	68/42/s	65/42/s	65/40/pc
Miami	74/52/pc	64/46/pc	67/55/pc	72/59/pc	74/52/c
Minneapolis	0/-6/pc	14/4/sf	26/12/sn	16/4/c	27/16/c
New Orleans	46/30/pc	44/30/s	50/38/pc	59/42/pc	61/41/s
New York City	19/16/pc	23/18/pc	29/24/s	32/27/s	35/16/pc
Philadelphia	25/8/pc	23/10/pc	27/18/s	32/20/s	38/15/s
Phoenix	74/51/pc	76/51/s	74/50/pc	74/49/s	73/52/s
Portland	52/42/sh	52/42/sh	54/44/pc	52/38/r	49/30/sh
San Francisco	60/48/pc	60/48/pc	62/50/s	62/50/c	59/43/pc
Seattle	50/40/sh	48/42/sh	50/42/pc	50/40/r	49/32/r
Tucson	74/44/pc	76/46/s	74/44/s	75/43/s	73/50/s
Washington, DC	24/12/c	22/14/pc	28/18/s	35/22/s	42/22/s

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



shop·vac
THE ORIGINAL WET/DRY VAC

Can't Tip This!

Exclusive TRUETRAC™ Anti-Tip Design makes it virtually impossible to knock over!

Available Only At Lowe's

\$69⁸⁸

12 Gallon 5.0 Peak HP Wet/Dry Vac #159648

DARE TO COMPARE No other wet/dry vac has all of these features.

- Genuine Shop-Vac Brand
- Low-Profile, Anti-Tip Design
- Quietest Wet/Dry Vac Available
- Extra-Large Tool Basket
- Convertible Blower Port
- High-Performance Cartridge Filter
- Lock-On Hose
- 18-Foot Power Cord
- Top & Side Carry Handles
- Big 2-1/2" Accessories

Available Only At



LOWE'S
Home Improvement Warehouse

Improving Home Improvement™

See the complete line of the #1 selling brand of wet/dry vacs, filters and accessories.

www.shopvac.com
Shop-Vac® is a registered trademark of Shop-Vac Corporation.

www.lowes.com
Lowe's® and the gable design are registered trademarks of LF, LLC.
©2002 Lowe's® Home Centers, Inc.
For the Lowe's nearest you call 1-800-44-LOWES.
Prices may vary if there are market variations.

If It Doesn't Say Shop·Vac, Keep Shopping!®