

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Go center

Because college-going rates in Texas lag behind California, New York and other large states, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is seeking to reverse the trend by establishing about 50 "Go Centers" across the state — and one of the first will be at Socorro High School. The centers will involve intense peer and community support networks to encourage and inform students so they will be prepared to attend college after graduation. Student peer mentors who recently returned from a statewide training summit will be joined by UTEP students and SISD administrators at the unveiling on Friday, Aug. 29 at 2 p.m. The event will be held at the Counseling Career Center at SHS, 10150 Alameda.

### Fugitives arrested

The Enforce/Ident System routinely utilized by the U.S. Border Patrol to process persons who enter the U.S. illegally recently revealed criminal warrants against two people detained in separate incidents. On Aug. 11, agents near Fabens detained a man attempting to enter the U.S. from Mexico through an area of open farmland and irrigation canals. When detained, he admitted to being in the U.S. illegally — and when his photo and fingerprints were processed through the nationwide identification system, he was found to have two outstanding warrants relating to child molestation, one from California and one from Georgia. He was identified at 29-year-old Marcos Santiago Montiel from Durango, Mexico and was extradited to Georgia. In a second incident on Aug. 24 at Santa Teresa, agents detained a man, a woman and an infant entering the U.S. illegally. The man was subsequently identified through the Enforce/Ident system to be Luis Rosalio Ramirez of Zacatecas, Mexico, wanted on an arrest warrant out of Denton County on homicide charges. The woman was identified as his wife, and she was returned with the child to Mexico.

### In other news

■ An opportunity to see up close and personal what the U.S. Border Patrol is all about is being offered during the 17th session of the Citizens Academy to begin Sept. 18. Open to the general public, the six-week program will be held each Thursday from 6-8 p.m. with information given about the mission, roles, practices, statutory authority, firearms policies and operational overview of the West Texas and New Mexico jurisdiction. There is no cost to the participants. Interested persons must be at least 18 years old to apply and may enroll by calling the El Paso Sector Community Relations Office at 834-8901 or the Public Affairs office at 834-8312 or 8313.

■ Congressman Henry Bonilla has been named Mr. South Texas 2004, sharing this prestigious title with past honorees including then-Gov. George W. Bush, Sen. Phil Gramm and Gov. Ann Richards. Mr. South Texas recipients are chosen by the

See BRIEFS, Page 4

*We may need tax reform, but it seems we need a lot of spending reform too.*

— Quips & Quotes



**CUT IT** — John Dixon, left, represented Horizon City as Phyllis Watters, center, GM of the El Paso County Water Authority (EPCWA) cut the ribbon to officially open the recycling center by Horizon's Town Hall. Representing the board of directors for EPCWA is Bonnie Moorhouse. The site had already begun accepting material several days prior to the event.

## Horizon opens recycling centers

HORIZON — A joint effort by several agencies has brought two recycling centers to the Horizon area to make it easier to reduce waste, reuse resources and recycle materials that would otherwise wind up lining the landfill.

Grand openings were held at one center last week and the second this week. Ribbons were cut at the center located at the Horizon City Town Hall, 14999 Darrington, last Wednesday by representatives of the El Paso County Water Authority, the Town of Horizon City, Horizon Community Improvement Association (HCIA) and the Clint Independent School District.

Similar ceremonies were held Tuesday this week at Frank Macias Elementary, 14400 Golden Eagle Drive, where 250 kids were given an overview of the program by EPCWA board members Bruce Truesdale Sr. and Bonnie Moorhouse.

The centers were established with coopera-

tion from the Rio Grande Council of Governments to administer grant funding from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality after the EPCWA applied for grant funding. Matching funds were provided by other entities in materials at the recycling sites and cash contributions for construction costs.

Items accepted for recycling are plastics marked HDPE #2 and PETE #1, newspapers, magazines, office paper, aluminum, junk mail and cardboard. Plastic shopping bags will be accepted after Sept. 1 in separate specified containers. An attendant is on duty at each site during designated hours — items should be delivered only during operating hours and should never be left outside the gated area during closures.

Hours at the Town Hall center are Monday

See RECYCLE, Page 6

## State troopers to target Labor Day DWI offenders as new stiffer laws go into effect

The Texas Department of Public Safety will have all available troopers on the roadways during the upcoming Labor Day weekend targeting speeders, seat belt violators and drunk drivers.

DPS — along with law enforcement agencies throughout the state — will increase patrols from Friday, Aug. 29 through Monday, Sept. 1 in an effort to cut down on highway deaths and injuries.

Last year, DPS issued 26,577 citations during the Labor Day holiday, which is more than three and a half times the number of a non-holiday weekend. This includes 1,297 alcohol-related citations or arrests.

"Labor Day tends to be a holiday with a large number of DWI fatalities," said DPS Director Col. Thomas A. Davis Jr. "Because Labor Day is traditionally the last weekend of the summer, more people are out celebrating, creating potentially dangerous situations on our roadways."

A new state law, effective Sept. 1, makes driving while intoxicated with a passenger younger than 15 a state jail felony, punishable by a maximum of two years in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

Another new law will result in a \$3,000 surcharge (paid over three years) if an offender is convicted of driving while intoxicated.

"Our job is to make sure the highways are safe for everyone, so drivers who insist on endangering others run a much higher risk of getting a ticket or going to jail this holiday weekend," said Davis. DPS is a participant in Operation CARE (Combined Accident Reduction Effort), a nationwide effort by police agencies to reduce fatalities during holidays.

## Canutillo ISD approves 2003-2004 budget and tax rate

By Alfredo Vasquez  
Special to the Courier

UPPER VALLEY — Canutillo Independent School District board of trustees approved a \$36 million budget for the 2003-2004 school year during a special board meeting held Monday, Aug. 25.

The board also approved the administration's recommendation to decrease the property tax rate by one cent to a \$1.70 per \$100 dollars of assessed value.

The new budget includes \$32.7 million for maintenance and operation and \$3.3 million for debt service. It is approximately \$1 million more than last year's total budget.

"The increase is due to a three percent pay increase for teachers, administrators, and auxiliary personnel. The district also budgeted an additional \$424,300 for health care and new faculty and staff positions to accommodate student population growth," said Tony Reza, Canutillo ISD Comptroller.

According to Reza, the district tax bill for the

owner of an average home of \$58,811 (minus a \$15,000 Homestead exemption) would be \$745 a year, compared with \$696 under the previous rate. "The assessed property valuations for the district increased, and taxpayers approved a \$12.3 million bond issuance in April resulting in the increased tax bill of \$49," he said.

"When the district was considering the bond sale, we told voters that we estimated that it would cost 10.5 cents if the state IFA (Instructional Facilities Allotment) funds were not available. State Legislators delayed the IFA program in May for one year, so Canutillo did not get IFA assistance," said Reza.

"However, with the help of our financial advisors (First Southwest), Canutillo took advantage of the drop in interest rates to refinance in July the district's debt service which gave CISD a savings of \$4 million over the life of the bonds. That, coupled with a healthy reserve fund balance, enabled the district to reduce the tax rate by one cent for the coming year," Reza explained.

In other business:

• Sergio Martinez, with Dimensions Archi-

itects, said work is progressing on site preparation (20 percent complete) for new high school. Foundation should be in place by end of September. Walls should be going up by December. He will be presenting school color schemes for consideration by board.

• George Arceniega, Canutillo ISD truancy officer, outlined district's plan for dealing with truants. "It takes early intervention to reduce truancy rate," he said. Freshmen, he adds, are biggest offenders.

• Board recognized teachers of the year. They are Kyann McMillie, Canutillo Elementary; Rebecca Florez, Canutillo High; Jaime Lopez, Childress Elementary; and Yvonne Gonzalez, Davenport Elementary.

• Dr. Pam Padilla, assistant superintendent for student performance, says her department is assessing data from the recent TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) testing. In reference to students' performance on the test, she said some students need more time to pass. "If they stay with us, we will stay with them."

(Don Woodyard contributed to this story.)



## One perspective

By Francis Shrum

# People who read papers

My records don't go back past 1992.

For subscriptions to this paper, that is. There's a reason why. In 1992 we moved our office and updated everything. The earliest date showing when someone began subscribing to the *Homesteader News*, a.k.a. *West Texas County Courier*, is 1992.

That is sort of a shame because I know lots of you have been with us longer than that. I'm not sure why but I'm glad you have.

You'll probably never know this but I get a little thrill every time we get a check in the mail answering our subscription renewal notice. It means that someone, somewhere, is willing to pay what the U.S. postal service requires to send our publication first class to their home — somewhere, some near, some very, very far.

If you live near and you read our paper you can do so for free. We give it away to anyone who wants to pick it up on our stands. Or log on to our website. That's what amazes me when somebody actually wants to pay the first class postage needed for us to send it to their mailbox.

You know, these subscribers include folks responsible for the building of this county, the people whose character and backbone have kept us at least a little honest. Folks like the man with the snowy white beard who lives in Socorro. He has served the community with dogged determination as a government watchdog and with his endless hours of service in the Lions Club. If you read this, sir, you'll know who I'm talking about.

Then there is this fellow who lives in St. Albans, Vermont. If you read this, sir, you will also know, because you are our only subscriber in that

location. Your check comes so faithfully I sometimes feel like I know you though I've never spoken to you and don't know a thing about you personally. But I know you're out there, reading, so when we put this paper together every week, you are hovering somewhere in the edge of my conscience.

Then there is this lady in Chicago, Illinois. She's been with us for a very long time. She's not our only subscriber from Illinois, but she's the only one from Chicago. I always recognize her lovely name and her elegant request for renewal. "Kindly renew my subscription for the *Courier* for additional 52 issues," she writes.

These are people with dignity and style, from New York to California, with the kind of character and experience born of long life and varied experience. People who read.

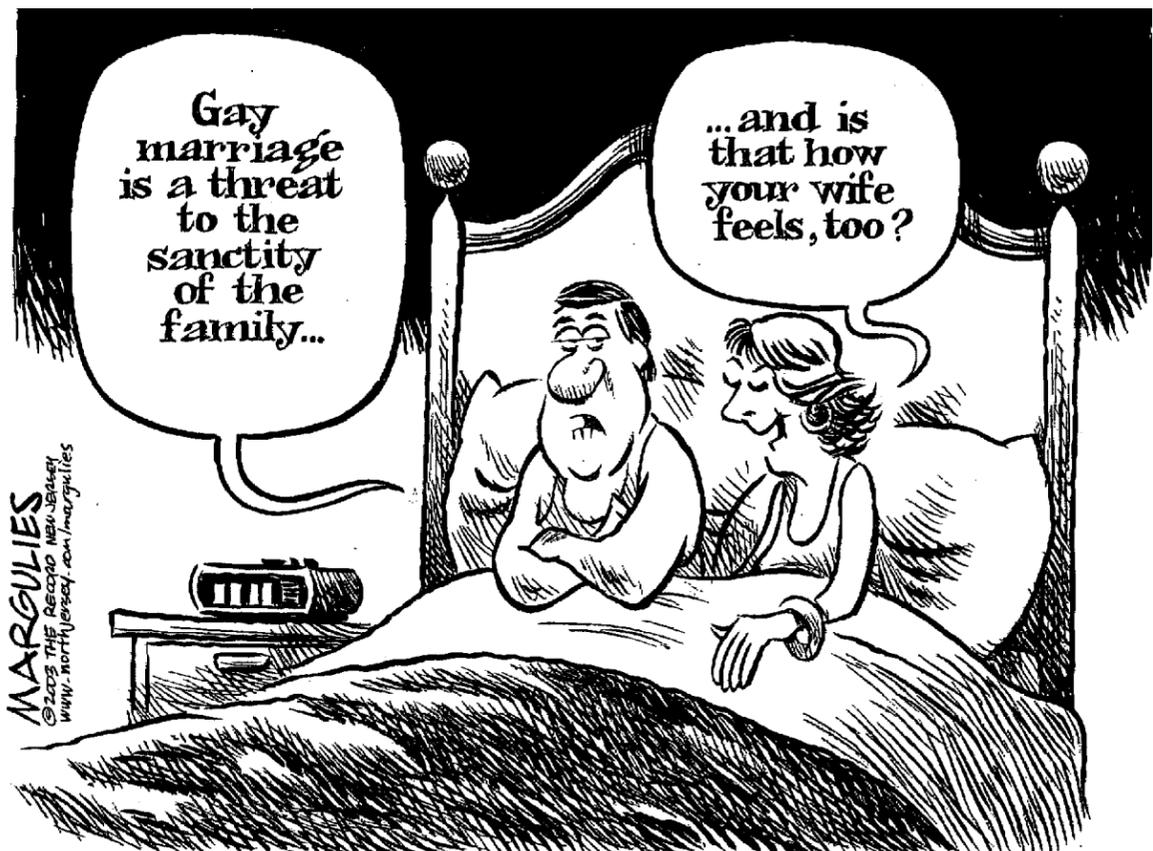
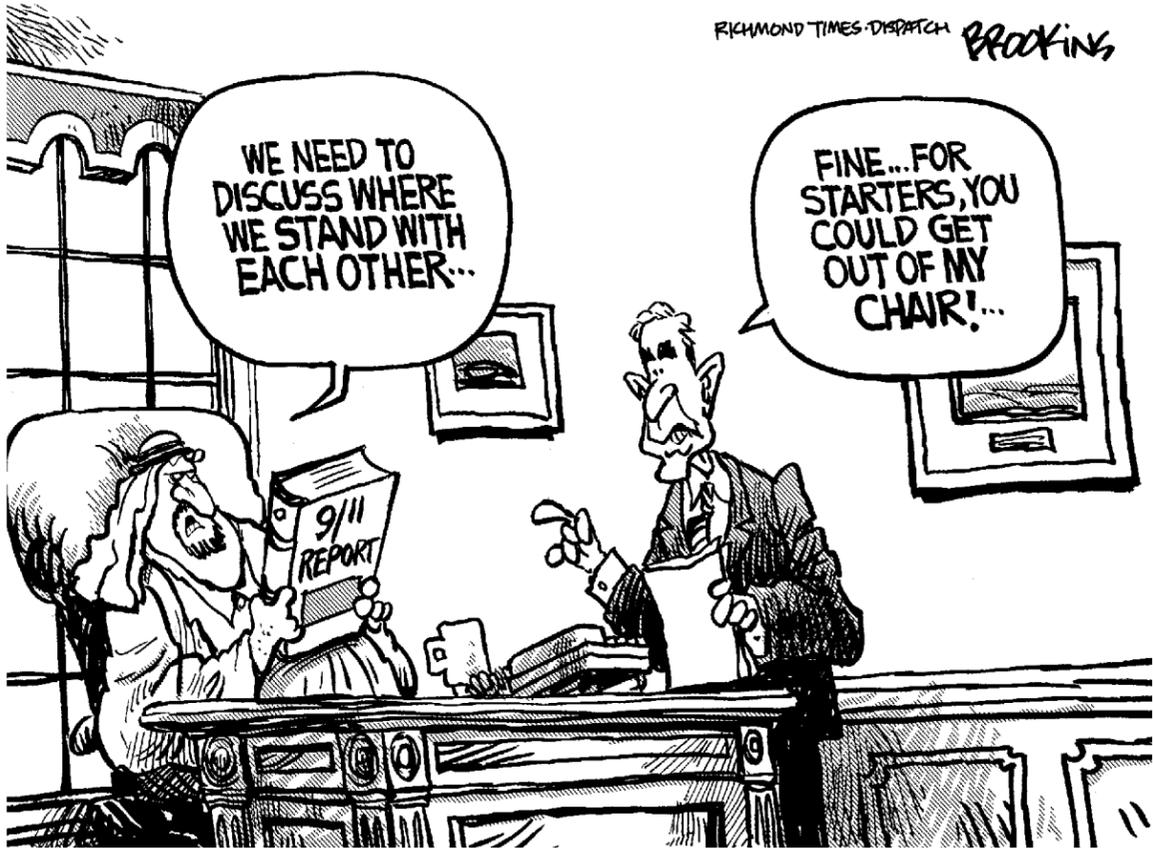
People who read papers. Even ours.

Sometimes little things like that can cross your desk and suddenly it opens your eyes to the realization that there are still people whose field of vision is not so limited that they are interested only in "specific purpose" publications, people who are interested in everything, everyone, everywhere.

We've had some sad subscription terminations over the years. Some have come with apologetic notes written in trembling hand that said they were moving and could no longer keep their subscription.

Some long-time subscribers simply faded away and after the several months that we always continue

See PEOPLE, Page 5



## 30 Years WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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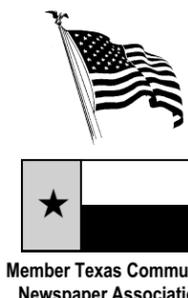
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## Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

# Hearings in El Paso to seek public school finance ideas

I have some great news for the good people of El Paso regarding the issue of public school finance. Due to the fact that the so-called Robin Hood system of financing our public schools has been discontinued, the onus is on the Texas Legislative body to replace it with a system that will be equitable, far-reaching, and true to the needs of our young people, especially Hispanics, who continue to linger at the bottom of the totem pole in almost every aspect of life.

To that end, Texas State Rep. Pete Gallego, chairman of the Mexican American Legislative Caucus — also known as MALC — has appointed a Task Force to gather public testimony regarding this critical issue. The hearings, entitled: "Excellence vs. Adequacy: How Much Quality Can Texas Schools Afford," will begin this fall across Texas. I'm proud to say that MALC has selected El Paso County as one of their hearing destinations.

The hearings are meant as a way to bring attention to the educational disparity that exists in Texas between Anglos and minorities. The choices we make now, regarding school financing, will have far-reaching effects. We will either enrich our future, or we will leave the state in poverty.

According to Rep. Rick Noriega, D-Houston, who is chairing this initiative, "The Task Force will visit rich districts and poor districts, rural communities, and urban communities. As Hispanic school children go, so does Texas." Noriega said that Hispanics make up about 32 percent of the population today, but because that population is younger, Hispanic children make up almost 40 percent of the children in public schools. By 2040, Hispanics will be 50 percent of the Texas population, and 66 percent of the public school population.

Other caucus members who will visit El Paso, include Rep. Dora Olivo, Scott Hochberg, Joaquin Castro, Pat Haggerty, Elvira Reyna,

Ken Mercer, Jessica Farrar, Eddie Rodriguez, Garnet Coleman, and me. I'm proud to be part of this committee, and proud of the fact that El Paso is one of the first communities to be given this opportunity.

I am, therefore encouraging every El Pasoan to attend this hearing in the fall. I will keep you posted of the date, time and place of this event. The El Paso community will have input regarding such issues as:

- The impact of equalization aid to this region's school districts — despite El Paso's reputation as one of the poorest cities in the nation, our educators are doing an excellent job. But we need to do more, without burdening our taxpayers.
- The impact on local tax rates if equalization is lost — already, our public schools are overtaxed, with nowhere else to go to obtain needed funds.
- The adverse effects on the

See CHENTE, Page 4

REXBABIN THE SACRAMENTO BEE



# Back to school

Well, it's that time of year again — our kids are heading back to school. It's a time for new beginnings, a new school year, new grade levels, new teachers and new classrooms. Fresh from the long summer break, students all over Texas are trotting off to school once again to begin a new year of homework, studying and tests.



By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

## Eye on D.C.

As we buy new school clothes, notepads and pens for our children, we are also pondering the quality of education our kids are getting. It used to be that all you needed for school was a Big Chief tablet and a number two pencil. Today computers are the norm. The way children are educated has changed drastically over the past few decades. But with help from President Bush, our children's education is looking better every day.

ceive and the better they do in school. And we're not just hiring more teachers, we're also giving schools the freedom to provide more training for teachers. The more knowledge our teachers possess, the more our children will receive.

The No Child Left Behind Act promotes early reading skills and increases the focus on math and science education. Funds are allocated for better math and science programs.

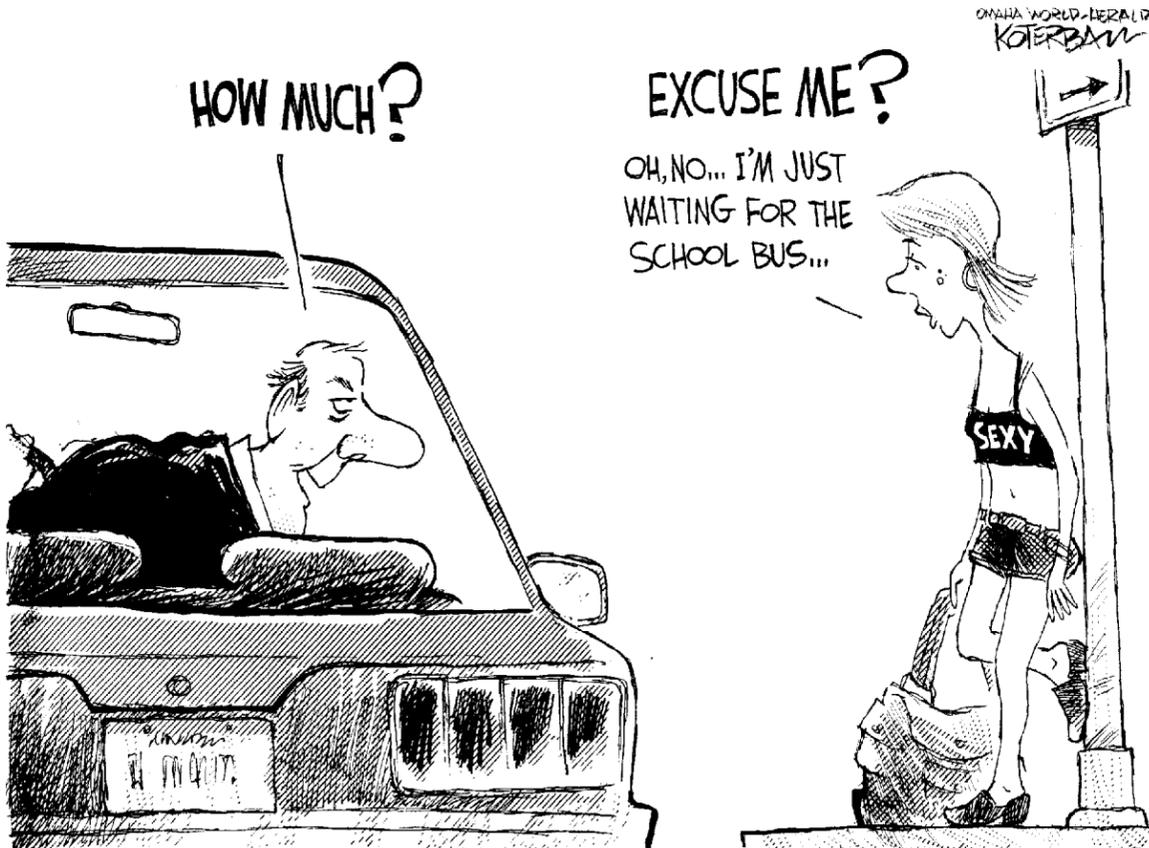
We're also encouraging schools to make their programs more rigorous to help children reach higher education goals. The new plan includes a performance-based grant program. This program supplies more funding to schools to increase literacy in technology. In other words: schools that need the most help will get the most help.

Perhaps the most important aspect of this legislation is that we're putting discretion in the hands of the schools. We're giving the schools the power to make decisions on how to spend federal funding. They can choose to spend more on development or they can make reducing class size a priority. Schools will make the decisions, not bureaucrats.

I'm proud to have helped the Congress pass the president's education plan. We're already seeing improvements in the school system. The "No Child Left Behind Act" is changing the education of our children. By cutting the bureaucratic red tape, we're putting our nation's education system in the hands of educators, not political leaders in Washington, D.C.

Our new approach cuts down on federal requirements and gives schools more of the flexibility they need and deserve. First things first, we're making it possible for schools to reduce class size by hiring more teachers. This is simple math. The smaller the classroom, the more attention students re-

In the spirit of the season, of a new school year and of new beginnings, I'm proud that our education initiatives are beginning the process of removing Washington from the education equation. Local control of education will provide our students with the best education possible. Class dismissed.



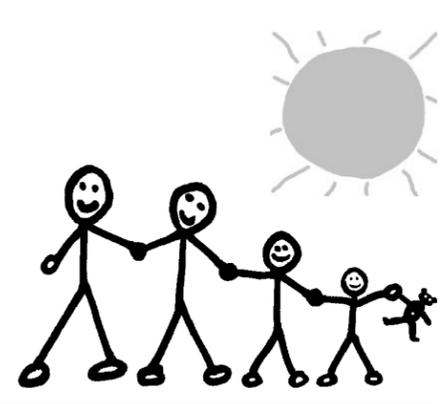
## Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

# Workforce development center now has a rolling station

Labor Day is a holiday set aside to honor the contributions of our nation's hardworking men and women. Many look forward to the three-day weekend to relax or get together with family and friends. However, in our community, 10.5-percent of El Pasoans are unemployed (compared to the national average of 6.4-percent) and do not have as much reason to celebrate. As Labor Day approaches, let's take a moment to focus on how that 10.5-percent of El Pasoans can observe the holiday this year. Our unique position on the border calls for somewhat unconventional solutions to our unemployment problems. El Paso needs — and deserves — more than tax cuts to stimulate our economy and job prospects. We are lucky to have numerous organizations in El Paso that promote quality job opportunities and I am proud to support them.

For instance, El Pasoans will soon see a "40-foot workforce center on wheels" making its way through our community. The Upper Rio Grande Workforce Development Board introduced their "Upper Rio Grande @ Work System Mobile Career Center" last week, thanks to a grant provided by the Texas Workforce Commission. The Mobile Career Center will assist more than 40,000 job-seekers in the counties of Brewster, Culberson, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis and Presidio. Upper Rio Grande @ Work System staff realized that residents of those counties could not utilize their Upper Rio Grande @ Work Career Centers because they lacked transportation and child care services to allow them to leave home. Those residents now have access to job training and child care information via the Mobile Career Center which will periodically roll up in their town or neighborhood. The Center holds ten workstations which are equipped with the most up-to-date

computer systems available, including high speed wireless Internet access and real time network connectivity. The computers are also loaded with software and programs to provide resume writing assistance, skills assessment and training, GED pre-testing, Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) remediation, practice testing for ACT and SAT college entrance exams, and - most importantly - job search assistance. The Center is also equipped with a satellite, which will allow users to log on to local and statewide job data base systems. In addition to the Mobile Career Center, the Upper Rio Grande Workforce Development Board is offering El Pasoans another opportunity to find a job. On October 2 nd, they will hold "the premier employment event in 2003" — the HIRE El Paso Job Expo. This Job Expo will feature two hundred employers who



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**TRUE TEXAS FACTS** by Roger Moore August 24, 1917, Gov. Jim Ferguson is impeached. His fatal mistake was vetoing funding for UT and angering powerful UT alumni.



See REYES, Page 4

## Briefs

From Page 1

Washington Birthday Celebration Association (WBCA) based on their dedication to improving the

lives of others and contributions to the growth of South Texas. Last year's Mr. South Texas honorees were Dr. Francisco Cigarroa and Dr. Ricardo Cigarroa. Other recipients include State Sen. Judith Zaffirini, Daryl Royal, Dolf Briscoe and Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock.

WBCA has been honoring outstanding men and women since 1952. The decision to honor Bonilla was made unanimously by the Selection Committee, which is comprised of all past presidents of the Association and former recipients of the Mr. South Texas award.

■ An evening of stargazing will be offered at Americas High School on Thursday, Aug. 28 beginning at 8 p.m. Telescopes and mentors from the Socorro school district's Urban Strategic Program and the Math and Science programs will be on hand to show and

explain astronomy and the science of space. The session will immediately follow the community meeting with SISD Supt. Dr. Robert Duron, which will be held at 6 p.m. in the band room. For more information: 937-1500.

## NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

City of Socorro  
124 S. Horizon Blvd.  
Socorro, Texas 79927

West Texas County Courier  
August 28, 2003

### TO: All Interested Agencies, Groups and Persons:

Seventeen (17) days after this publication, the County of El Paso, Texas, intends to request the Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) to release Federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-383) for 2003 - 2004 Street Improvement Project for the City of Socorro.

### Environmental Assessment Activities

Construction activities will take along Country Green, Mary Lou Park, and Grijalva Subdivisions will include the installation of approximately 29,490.63 linear feet of hot asphalt.

### Finding of No Significant Impact

It has been determined that such a request of release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly the City of Socorro has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190). The reason for such a decision not to prepare such a Statement is based upon the fact that all environmental concerns could either be minimized or mitigated.

An Environmental Review Record for the proposed project has been made by the City of Socorro that documents the environmental review of the project, and more fully sets forth the reasons why such a statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the Office of Community Development, City of Socorro, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, Texas, 79927, and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

### Public Comments on Findings

All interested agencies, groups and persons, disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the City of Socorro to the address as set forth above. Such written comments must be received at the address specified within sixteen (16) days after this publication. All such comments so received will be considered and the City of Socorro will not request the release of funds or take administrative action on the project prior to the date specified in the proceeding sentence.

### Release of Funds

The City of Socorro will undertake the activities described above with Community Development Block Grant funds under Title I from its Program Year 2003 from the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The City of Socorro is certifying to Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) that Mrs. Irma S. Sanchez in her official capacity as Mayor, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the City of Socorro may use the Block Grant funds and it will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. ORCA will accept an objection to its approval only on one or more of the bases and the procedures described in 24 CFR Part 58.75. Objections are to be addressed to the Office of Rural Community Affairs, P. O. Box 12877, Austin, Texas 78711.

Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the ORCA. No objections received later than thirty-three (33) days after this publication will be considered by ORCA.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Irma S. Sanchez, Mayor  
City of Socorro

## Chente

From Page 2

border by the lack of educational unemployment — El Paso citizens continue to be the lowest wage earners, possess the lowest average of educational attainment, the lowest level of home ownership and the lowest level of health insurance, etc.

• The unique issues faced by property poor rapid growth districts — as soon as a school is built in El Paso, it immediately becomes overcrowded.

• The need for more, not less, special programs for language minority and economically disadvantaged students — our proximity to the Mexican Border creates special problems, of which legislators in the richer parts of the state are not aware;

• Assurances that no mandates be sent to school districts, whether from the state or federal government, without the appropriate funding mechanism that lessens the burden on local taxpayers.

I also thank Jimmy Vasquez, Executive Director for Region 19 Education Service Center, for his support, expertise, and commitment in assisting us in coordination of this hearing. He was Superintendent of Edgewood ISD and became a known entity statewide when he led the Edgewood vs. Kirby lawsuit to equalize funding for education in Texas. Due to this lawsuit, our public school system is currently the most equitable it has ever been.

I will notify you of our first MALC public education finance hearing in El Paso. Your friend and representative, Chente for la gente.

## Reyes

From Page 3

will hold on-site employment seminars and interviews at the El Paso Convention Center. Those who attend should bring resumes and dress professionally — there's a good chance you will be interviewed by a potential employer.

Upper Rio Grande's Mobile Career Center and HIRE El Paso Job Expo are creative solutions to the unemployment problems facing our community. Through their leadership, El

Pasoans have many more resources at their fingertips to find jobs.

The sluggish economy that is plaguing communities across the country has put local employment and training organizations to the test. The Upper Rio Grande Workforce Development Board, along with many other employment organizations in El Paso have risen to the challenge. Their creativity and energy are improving El Paso's incomes, as well as the lives of those within our community. I am continually impressed with their ideas and know that El Paso would not be the city it is without them.

## Town of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at **6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9, 2003** during the **Regular City Council Meeting** at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following:

- 1) Proposed Ordinance No. 0111 - Rezoning a portion of Section 30, Block 78, Township 3, Horizon Mesa Unit II. The proposed ordinance is to rezone from R-1 Single Residential to R-9 Single Residential.
- 2) Proposed Ordinance No. 0110 - Authorizing the Collection of Property Taxes and Setting Tax Rate FY 2003-2004.
- 3) Proposed Ordinance No. 0108 - Appointing a temporary Municipal Judge.
- 4) Ordinance No. 0087 - Authorizing the creation and continuation of Municipal Court Technology Fund for the Town of Horizon City.

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

Sandra Sierra  
City Clerk

WTCC: 08/28/03

**Social Security Q&A** By Ray Vigil

*Hanging it up this summer*

Lots of people choose the summer months as a time to retire. If you're thinking of "hanging it up" so you have more time to "hang out" during these warm weather months, then applying for Social Security is probably on your "to do" list. Here are some helpful tips that will ease your transition from Social Security taxpayer to Social Security beneficiary.

First, consider applying for Social Security benefits online. Simply sit at your computer and fill out the

online application. Then print it out, sign and mail it, along with certified copies of certain documents we'll tell you we need, to the address we'll give you. Just go to [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) and click on "Apply for retirement benefits online." But if you're still not comfortable with computers and the online world, you can file your claim over the phone, or make an appointment to visit your local Social Security office. We'll be happy to help you that way if that's your preference.

Second, here's a tip about the documents we might need. You always have to prove you are old enough to qualify for Social Security retirement benefits. As a general rule, that means we need to see an original or certified copy of your birth certificate. (A "certified" copy means it has the signature and seal of the official in charge of maintaining your birth record.) Sorry, but a photocopy of the original or certified copy won't work. We'll also take a religious record of

your birth if it was recorded before you were 5 years old. If you have neither a birth nor religious record, call us at 1-800-772-1213 to find out what other records we will accept. Our general policy is that the oldest available record of your birth is the best record.

You'll also need to show us a W-2 form or tax return for last year. That is so we can make sure your Social Security benefit computation includes all your earnings. We usually will have a record of all your earnings, but evidence of the most recent year may not yet be in our files. For example, if you are filing for Social Security in 2003, bring a copy of your 2002 W-2 form (or tax return if you were self-employed).

There are other documents you may need depending on your particular case. For example, we may need your military discharge papers or birth records for a spouse or children if they also are applying for benefits. We will let you know what we need to process your claim.

Finally, here is some information to help you understand how your 2003 earnings may affect your eligibility for Social Security benefits. The impact those earnings have de-

pends on your age. If you were born in 1937 or earlier, and are just signing up for Social Security in 2003, your 2003 earnings will not prevent you from receiving your Social Security benefits this year. No matter how much you make this year, you will be due all of your Social Security benefits. If you were born in 1938 (meaning you will reach your "full retirement age" of 65 and 2 months this year), you can earn up to \$30,720 in 2003 and still be eligible for all your Social Security benefits. For every \$3 you earn over \$30,720, \$1 must be withheld from your retirement benefits. But effective with the month you reach age 65 and 2 months, there is no limit on your earnings.

If you were born after 1937 (although age 62 is the earliest age you can claim Social Security retirement benefits), then we must withhold \$1 from your benefits for each \$2 you

earn over \$11,520 in 2003. But you are due a Social Security benefit for any month you earn less than \$960. For example, let's say you turned 62 in March and you are retiring on July 31. You expect you will earn \$30,000 from January through July. Even though that is well above the \$11,520 earnings threshold, you can get a Social Security benefit for August through December because your earnings in those months are below \$960. (Note: only income from a job counts towards the limit. We do not count pensions, savings, investments, etc.)

For more information visit your local social security office, see [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.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.

**People**

From Page 2

sending after a far-away subscription terminates, I deleted their names, wondering where these folks were and what circumstances were occurring in their lives.

We get plenty of feed-back from local sources about our coverage — or the lack of it — but those who subscribe seldom say anything either pro or con.

They just vote with their renewals.

I had one fellow, though, who subscribed many years ago. He called in regularly to complain about the paper. He never liked anything. Finally, I figured up the number of months he still had on his last subscription renewal and sent him a check for the difference. I wrote him a note saying that we could not, in good faith, accept money from someone who was so obviously unhappy with our product.

I don't know if he kept reading the paper or not, but I had to respect the fact that up until then he read it faithfully, even if it did give him incessant heart burn.

There are folks from 17 states, from Arizona and Arkansas to Wisconsin and Vermont who subscribe annually to our paper — maybe for the content or just to do our crossword puzzle — and we'd like to salute every single one of them.

And just say thanks for being people who still read papers.

**Tunes For Tots**  
 Music Lessons  
 for Kids  
 Ages  
 0 to 5



**Classes In Horizon**

Share the joy of music with your child whether newborn, toddler, or pre-school. Enjoy a musical bonding experience with your infant. Teach your toddler musical concepts. Let your pre-schooler learn the musical cycle of seasons. Classes start week of Sept. 16. Now accepting applications, space limited.

Blooming Desert Music School  
 478-0688

 [www.musikgarten.org](http://www.musikgarten.org)  
[iSibyl@mac.com](mailto:iSibyl@mac.com)

**NOTICE  
 OF VOTE ON  
 TAX RATE**

The Town of Horizon City conducted a public hearing on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the Town of Horizon City by 9.6 percent on August 29, 2003.

The Town of Horizon City is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 9, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. at 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, TX 79928.

WTCC: 08/28/03

**[www.wtccourier.com](http://www.wtccourier.com)**

**City of Socorro**  
**Notice of Public Hearing  
 on Tax Increase**

The City of Socorro will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceeding year by **0.00 percent**. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lessor rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

The public hearing will be held **Thursday, September 4, 2003 at 6:30 p.m.** at City Hall, 124 S. Horizon Blvd., Socorro, TX 79927.

**FOR the proposal:** Sam Brewster, Gloria Rodriguez, Gary Gandara, Joseph Bowling and Joe L. Ramirez

**AGAINST the proposal:** None

**PRESENT and not voting:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The following table compares taxes on an average home in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average home this year. Again, your individual taxes may be higher or lower, depending on the taxable value of your property.

	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>This Year</u>
Average residence homestead value	\$49,046	\$49,528
General exemptions available (Amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$-0-	\$-0-
Average taxable value	\$49,046	\$49,528
Tax rate (per \$100)	\$0.443139	\$0.475940
Tax	\$217.34	\$235.72

**Under this proposal taxes on the average homestead would increase by \$18.38 or 8.46 percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would increase by \$0.032800 per \$100 of taxable value or 7.40 percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.**

WTCC: 08/28/03

# Miners could be poised to blow out Arizona, or not

By Steve Escajeda  
Special to the Courier

It's finally here — football! ... UTEP football. And the big question this week is whether or not the Miners can actually give the Arizona Wildcats a run for their money.

In the recent past there would have been no question. UTEP would have its reserved spot at the bottom of the WAC standings and Arizona would be in the middle of the chase for the PAC-10 title.

This year, however, things are a little different. This year the consensus is that the Miners will be much improved and it's the Wildcats who are in disarray.

But even when the Miners field a competent squad, they are still usually no match for teams from bigger conferences.

So do the Miners have a prayer at Arizona?

Let's look at some of the matchups. Last week, UTEP coach Gary Nord finally decided who would lead his team on offense, settling on Orlando Cruz.

Good choice. I think all of us media types who cover the Miners felt he was definitely coming on last year before he got hurt.

Cruz has a great arm with a great touch for the long ball. Nord named Jordan Palmer as

the backup. A sophomore starter and a freshman backup, sounds kind of risky ... but not uncommon.

Arizona is in the same boat. Sophomore Nic Costa and redshirt freshman Ryan O'Hara are still battling to see who the top cat will be in Tucson.

The problem in Arizona is that neither man has been able to establish himself as a team leader. The Wildcats are young and inexperienced and have had three straight losing seasons.

The Miners are 21-point underdogs but I just don't think that the Arizona players believe it. Word is that the coach John Mackovich's team has all but done one of those *Mutiny on the Bounty* things and lost all respect for their coach.

Believe it or not, the Miners have the Wildcats right where they want them. UTEP has a chance to make national news this Saturday with a shocking win.

The real test will be if the Miners can keep from turning the ball over more than once and forcing Arizona to cough it up at least three times.

That will be the difference, turnovers, and the kicking game. Aside from that, both teams look pretty evenly matched.

Don't be shocked if the Miners end up with

a 24-17 win.

Yes, I really think the Miners can win this one and no, I haven't been drinking. But if the Miners get blown out, I might start.

## The power of pretty

Though she obviously has some athletic talent, it's no secret that tennis star Anna Kournikova is better known for her backside than her backhand.

And though it's also no secret that men love to see her run around the court, they may enjoy the closer glance they'll get of her during this week's U.S. Open Championships.

In a move that makes absolute sense, the USA Network, knowing that Kournikova cannot play because of injury, will be using the tennis beauty to conduct pop culture stories and interviews.

Kournikova will spend much of her time searching the grounds of the National Tennis Center for behind-the-scenes entertainment stories.

Smart move. Was it made because Kournikova has a certain insight into the game that other announcers do not? Was it made because Kournikova was the best person for the job? Was it made to get more guys to watch this beautiful woman and drive up TV ratings?

Boy, you guys are too smart for me.

Of course, it was made for no other reason

than because of the old adage ... sex sells and in this case it will again.

What do you expect from a country that made Jerry Springer famous?

## Another legend is gone

One of my favorite ball players as a kid played for the San Francisco Giants. He was an outfielder and his name was Bonds.

No, not Barry Bonds, it was his father, Bobby Bonds.

At the time there was no other player like Bonds. He was a player who could do everything on the field. He could hit for average, hit for power, field, run and throw.

And he was among the best in baseball in all five categories.

I guess you all have heard that Bobby Bonds died last week — at the age of 57! No one should die at the age of 57. Bobby Bonds was one of my favorite players as a kid, and it's hard to believe that he's gone.

But at least for a little while this week I was 10 years old again, rooting for the Giants of Willie Mays, Will McCovery and Bobby Bonds.

Barry Bonds may break all the records, but Bobby broke my heart.

Goodbye, Bobby Bonds. You were one of my favorite players of all time.

## Leadership has drawing power with area students council members

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Student council members from as far away as Van Horn, and as close as Socorro High School participated in the Trans-Pecos Student Council district convention Aug. 22 at Socorro High.

Almost 800 students from area high schools met to hear motivational speaker Mark Sharenbroich speak about leadership training. Sharenbroich has spoken to more than 3,500 student groups.

"We can't just ask student leaders to lead — we need to support the kids and give them the tools necessary to lead," says Sharenbroich. "You don't send kids to fight a war without giving them the tools and the training to lead. Their job as leaders is to leave the campsite in better shape than they found it. That's their legacy."

Viviana Flores is president of the student body at Montwood High School. "This is a district conference. All the people here share experiences and ideas and information about other conferences we've been to during the summer."

SHS assistant principal Jeannie Meza says each student council starts with an annual theme. "For Socorro High, this year's theme is 'The Power of Pride' and it means more than just wearing colors; it means starting from the ground up, getting everybody involved."

The conference included activities and workshops, and the morning session welcomed Socorro Superintendent Dr. Robert Duron, Ysleta ISD Superintendent Hector Montenegro, and El Paso ISD Superintendent Charles Tafoya.



**LISTENING TO LEADERS — Socorro High School Student Council members Rosie Lujan, Adriana Samudio, Debbie LaFuente and Sonia Ramirez welcomed motivational speaker Mark Sharenbroich to the 2003 Trans-Pecos Student Council convention Aug. 22.**

## Recycle

From Page 1

through Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and the center is closed on Sunday.

At Frank Macias Elementary, hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and this center is closed both Saturday and Sunday.

EPCWA General Manager Phyllis Watters said the centers will make it more convenient for area residents to participate in recycling programs and she said the two attendants who operate the centers have been invaluable in establishing the program.

She said Rachel Flores operates the Macias program while Valerie Caro is at Town Hall.

## King Super Crossword

### FOREIGN INTRIGUE

- 1 Conclude a deal
- 6 Drinks like a Dalmatian
- 10 Current unit
- 13 Bagel or bialy
- 17 State
- 18 Build
- 20 He'll give you a squeeze
- 21 Singer Adams
- 22 Egyptian manipulator?
- 24 German rock group?
- 26 Thames town
- 27 \_ blond
- 28 Quick comeback
- 30 Furtiveness
- 33 Encounter
- 34 Luke's book
- 37 Baseball stat
- 38 Feudal tenant
- 40 "Lohengrin" role
- 42 "Pshaw!"
- 45 Wind instrument?
- 48 Galley feature
- 50 Asta's father
- 51 Pie \_ mode
- 52 Indian restaurant?
- 57 Church bench
- 58 Mississippi mound
- 60 Help
- 61 Actress Rivera

- 62 Got up
- 64 Tragic monarch
- 65 Bar supply
- 66 Noggin
- 67 Fine
- 69 A bit of Bach
- 71 Bandleader Shaw
- 72 Sitarist Shankar
- 73 Prep school
- 76 Sheepish sounds
- 77 Seville shout
- 79 "Beowulf," e.g.
- 82 More naive
- 83 "\_ of robins ..."
- 85 Bartok or Peron
- 86 Islamic deity
- 87 Speedometer abbr.
- 88 Senegalese sitcom?
- 92 Khan opener?
- 93 Mayberry town drunk
- 95 "The Lady \_ Tramp" ('37 song)
- 96 Maintenance workers
- 97 Hither's mate
- 98 Contemptible
- 100 Good luck charm
- 104 \_ de plume
- 106 Film site?
- 107 Worn-out
- 108 TV's "\_ Shade"
- 112 Seminole shoe
- 116 Whitney or Mintz

- 117 On one's \_ (alert)
  - 119 Italian actor?
  - 122 Sensible Czech?
  - 126 Duel tool
  - 127 Season firewood
  - 128 Dieter's dish
  - 129 "\_ Fideles"
  - 130 Ward (off)
  - 131 Evergreen tree
  - 132 Sup in style
  - 133 Soprano Fleming
- DOWN**
- 1 Blind parts
  - 2 "Untouchable" Ness
  - 3 Klemperer of "Hogan's Heroes"
  - 4 Actor Tognazzi
  - 5 Energy
  - 6 Rover's restraint
  - 7 Roguish
  - 8 Hound or hamster
  - 9 A great many
  - 10 "Waterloo" group
  - 11 Yorkshire feature
  - 12 Gasp
  - 13 Tosses aside
  - 14 "Deep Space Nine" role
  - 15 Actress Ullmann
  - 16 Wahine's wreath
  - 17 Master
  - 19 Banyan and baobab
  - 23 Scoundrel

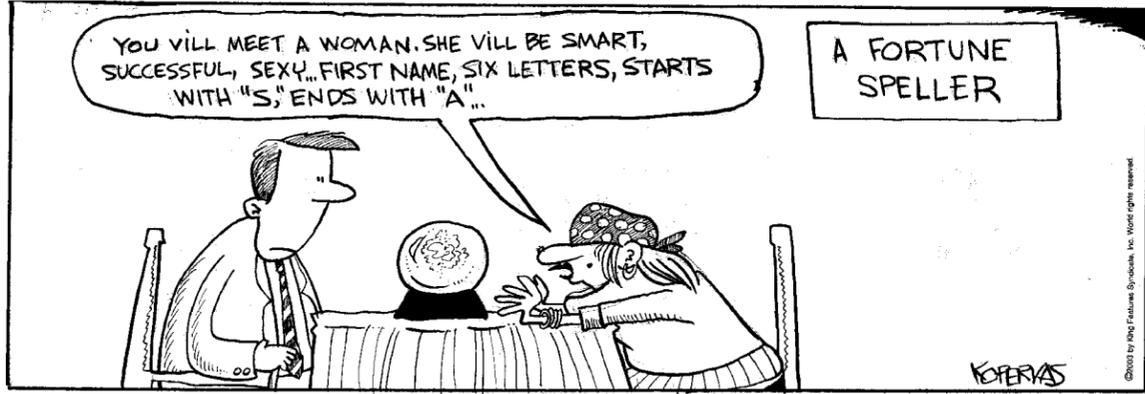
- 25 Close
- 29 School grp.
- 31 Residence
- 32 Brindisi bread
- 33 Artist Franz
- 35 Libyan baseball maneuver?
- 36 Most confident
- 38 Nullify
- 39 Like some sheep
- 40 Prospector's prize
- 41 Loser to Truman
- 42 Cinderella's soiree
- 43 Nautical adverb
- 44 Cuban game-show figure?
- 46 Jai \_
- 47 Lean
- 49 PDQ, politely
- 53 Overlay material
- 54 Massenet opera
- 55 Aachen article
- 56 Darling dog
- 59 Carve a canyon
- 63 "Bolero" composer
- 65 Jewel
- 66 Impetuous
- 68 Prior to, to Prior
- 70 Semester
- 71 Encourage a culprit
- 73 Iron clothes
- 74 Paris, to Helen
- 75 Tropical tubers

- 77 Ellipse
- 78 Chad or George
- 80 Othello's inducer
- 81 Detective Charlie
- 84 Linguist Chomsky
- 85 Redact
- 86 Torch's crime
- 89 \_ and yang
- 90 Hair part
- 91 Composer Thomas
- 94 Prepared cherries
- 99 Morlocks' prey
- 101 Donkey
- 102 Tanker and trawler
- 103 "Lord Jim" author
- 105 Kitten gear?
- 108 Manage to miss
- 109 Compete
- 110 Din
- 111 "Beau \_" ('39 film)
- 113 Potter's need
- 114 Circus sight
- 115 Once again
- 116 Richard of "Love Me Tender"
- 118 Sault \_ Marie, MI
- 119 Ring counter
- 120 Do Little work
- 121 Kyoto coin
- 123 Actress MacGraw
- 124 Deface
- 125 Citrus cooler

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
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		69		70			71				72					
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126					127				128				129			
130					131								133			

# Comix

## OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



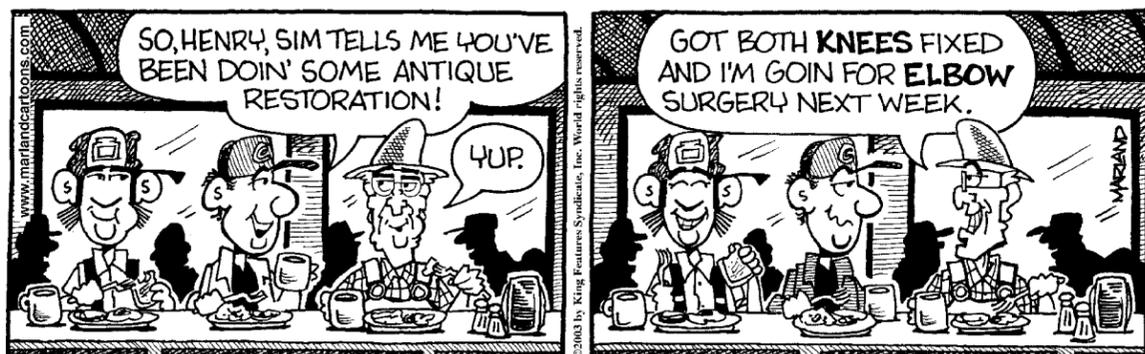
## AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



## THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



## R.F.D. By Mike Marland



# Spending whatever it takes

By Don Flood

At a recent press conference, President Bush defended plans to spend \$170 million on next year's primary campaigns.

What's notable about the \$170 million figure, of course, is that Bush has no opponents, a fact that had some in the press corps wondering if he'd be able to spend that much money.

"Watch me," the Washington Post quoted Bush as saying.

Wow. I admire the President's brave talk, but he has a problem. If he fails now he's going to look mighty foolish.

And spending that kind of money without an opponent isn't going to be easy. (Attack ads, for example, are less effective with no one to attack.)

So what's the President to do? Hire me. That's right. If hired, I promise to spend every last dollar they give me.

For starters, I would need a campaign headquarters, a comfortable and functional office — I was thinking something along the lines of the QE II.

Having an ocean liner as a campaign base would have a number of advantages. First, it would be mobile — the first deepwater campaign headquarters in American history — and it would be extremely expensive.

Right away, this would signal the President's intention to spend whatever was necessary (or perhaps what was unnecessary).

Second, it would enable the entire campaign staff, in the midst of bruising primary battles, to take a much-needed respite — let's say on the island of Capri.

If the President's schedule didn't permit him to join me, then I would be willing to go myself, with 3,000 or so of my closest friends.

The campaign headquarters'

mobility would also permit, if necessary, another way of disposing of excess cash.

Vote-buying, of course, is frowned upon in this country. But by employing the services of the giant luxury liner, I would be able to seek out countries where vote-buying was permitted or even actively encouraged.

True, these people couldn't actually vote for Bush, but since he has no opponent, the first order of business is to follow through on the President's pledge to spend the \$170 million.

On the Democratic side, where they have more candidates than can be seated comfortably at Madison Square Garden, things are more complicated.

It seemed, briefly, that the Democrats had found a front-runner when the news hit that Seabiscuit might enter the race.

Those hopes were dashed, however, when an investigation revealed that Seabiscuit was a horse and that he had been deceased for more than 50 years, rendering him ineligible for all but the Florida and California primaries.

Putting the best spin on the affair, Democratic leaders downplayed the loss of the Seabiscuit candidacy, saying they had questions from the beginning about his party affiliation and his commitment to "core Democratic values."

Gore supporters, on the other hand, were cheered at the news the Democrats were thinking about running a dead horse.

But that's the Democrats' problem. My mission is to spend that \$170 million as quickly as possible for the Republicans.

And if they raise even more money for me to spend?

Like the President says, "Bring it on!"

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# 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 will be accepted at the following times:

**PAPER SUPPLIES**  
CSP NO. 199-0905-0377  
ACCEPTED UNTIL SEPT. 5, 2003, AT 2 P.M.

**AUDIO VISUAL MEDIA**  
CSP NO. 199-0905-0390  
ACCEPTED UNTIL SEPT. 05, 2003, 2:30 P.M.

**DISTRICT SOFTWARE**  
CSP NO. 199-0905-0391

**ACCEPTED UNTIL SEPT. 05, 2003, 3 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-8/28/03

**SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

**TRACK EQUIPMENT**

**CSP NO. 199-0903-0379**  
ACCEPTED UNTIL SEPT. 3, 2003, AT 2 P.M.

**OFFICE AND TEACHING SUPPLIES**  
CSP NO. 199-0903-0376  
ACCEPTED UNTIL SEPT. 03, 2003, 2:30 P.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. WTCC-8/28/03

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

As per Article V, Sec. 5.05(a), all owners and

lienholders have ten (10) days from this date to reclaim their vehicles at Southwest Wrecker, 1401 Darrington Rd., 855-1900, 851-2091-fax, or it will be sold at public auction for charges: VIN - 4P37RX9X141287, 1980 Buick Limited, blue, California license 076 XJJ VIN - 2CIMR2299V6726420, 1997 Chevy Metro LSI, White, Arizona license 694 CYT. VIN - 2HSFHAERSXC064822, 1999 International Tractor, grey, no license. WTCC-8/28/03

**BUSINESS PROSPECTS**

Need extra income? Use the Internet? We just might have what you're looking for. Call 852-3235 for area representative.

**GARAGE SALES**

**GARAGE SALE** at 13960 Roslyn Drive in Horizon City, Saturday, Aug. 30, 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**HELP WANTED**

National pharmacy referral service now hiring home telephone workers nationwide. Lead generators, recruiters, sales, and management positions. Interview now at 773-379-4645. 100% legitimate training provided. 10/9

**LOCATION WANTED**

MEETING HALL TO SEAT 80 in the Westside area between Canutillo and UTEP. Must have refrigerated air con-

ditioning and bathrooms for both men and women. Looking for safe, attractive location with parking. Small storage area and kitchen facilities preferred. Will commit to long-term leasing arrangement. Call Bob, 584-5396.

**RENTALS**

**ROOMMATE WANTED** to share 3 BR home in Horizon. \$300 plus 1/2 utilities. 852-4527. 8/21

**FOR RENT:** Cabin in Cloudcroft by weekend or by the week, in the cool breeze of the mountains. Two bedroom w/loft will sleep six. Available year round. Contact 852-4997. 7/3, 8/7, 9/4

**QUALITY OFFICE SPACE:** 620 sq. ft.

Available April 22. HCIA building, Ashford Drive, Horizon City. Call (915) 852-1811. 7/3/03

**REAL ESTATE**

**LOTS FOR SALE:** 3/4 acres, utilities, financing available. Close to schools, amenities. 852-3069 or 433-7557. 8/28

**WATER SYSTEMS**

The importance of clean water becomes more obvious every day. The eSpring! Water System is designed to bring a little piece of mind. It destroys microorganisms. It effectively reduces over 140 other possible health-effect contaminants, from lead and mercury to VOCs, pesticides, and DBP. And independent testing proves it. Make the

best choice for your family. Others treat. We purify. Call 852-3235, Quixtar affiliated Independent Business Owner.

**SELF-HELP**

Persons who have a problem with alcohol are offered a free source of help locally. Alcoholics Anonymous - call 562-4081 for information.

*Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solución. Información: 838-6264.*

**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 roofer service for sewers

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

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www.inversecoatings.com

**Need a back issue?**  
[www.wtccourier.com](http://www.wtccourier.com)



# For Sanity's Sake By Taprina Milburn

## Fish stories

For my husband's birthday I took him on a fishing trip — not at all planning to do any fishing myself. But I thought the least I could do was go along and take pictures of him in his waders, vest and fishing hat.

He's truly the cutest "River Runs Through It" poster boy I've ever seen.

We asked the front desk at our hotel about hiring a guide to take us to the best fishing spots; they signed us up and said we'd need to meet him at 7:30 a.m.

I began to have second thoughts

about photo opportunities.

But when the alarm went off at 7:15 a.m. my husband gathered up his toys and we headed to meet Lou, our guide.

Part stand-up comedian, part outdoor survivalist, Lou got us settled in his boat and introduced us to his mascot — Fred, a large, hungry-looking crawdad that I thought would surely eat any fish we caught that day.

Lou navigated us through shallow waters and informed us that we really shouldn't have signed up for a full day of fishing, because the fish stop biting at 10:30 a.m.

"It gets *stupid* hot out here by then

anyway," Lou said.

Stupid hot, Lou explained, means you're stupid if you stay out in it.

After catching several rainbow trout, my husband got out of the boat and headed upstream to try out the fishing there. I stayed with Lou, who showed me how to hold a fish belly-up to make it calm down and not flop out of my hand as I removed the hook from its mouth.

"Holding it this way throws off its equilibrium so he settles down," Lou, the fish whisperer said.

Lou grabbed a beer out of the ice chest and poured some on his hands before putting bait on his own fishing line.

"Kills the human scent," he said and then finished off the beer.

"Wouldn't want to waste a good beer now would you?"

I asked him what it takes to be a fishing guide.

"You have to know how to talk to people," he said. And then he talked and I listened.

He grew up in Alaska and had been a fishing and hunting guide since he was 13. His stories sounded like pages out of a Jack London novel, including his tale of killing a caribou and slitting open its belly to place his hands in to keep warm after being stranded in the cold on a hunting trip.

"The best fishing I ever saw was on the Kenai River," he continued and held his hands wide apart in a true fisherman's tale sort of way.

"You could catch salmon this big."

He added that on several instances on the Kenai River, he watched as grizzly bear came within feet of his guide boat to grab fish out of the river. "Fish were so plentiful that you didn't have to worry about the bears bothering you, except one time I did see a grizzly grab someone's fish off their line. You let the bear win in that kind of deal."

I suppose Lou's stories might have been exaggerated in some spots. But that's the mark of a true fisherman, right?

One thing he didn't exaggerate, though: It did get stupid hot about 10:30 a.m.

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# WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

## SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

THURSDAY	THUR. NIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
▲ 91°	▼ 71°	▲ 90° ▼ 69°	▲ 89° ▼ 67°	▲ 85° ▼ 66°	▲ 86° ▼ 62°	▲ 91° ▼ 67°	▲ 92° ▼ 69°

### UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	7	High
Friday	9	Very High
Saturday	9	Very High
Sunday	6	Moderate
Monday	7	High
Tuesday	10	Very High
Wednesday	10	Very High

### REAL FEEL TEMP™

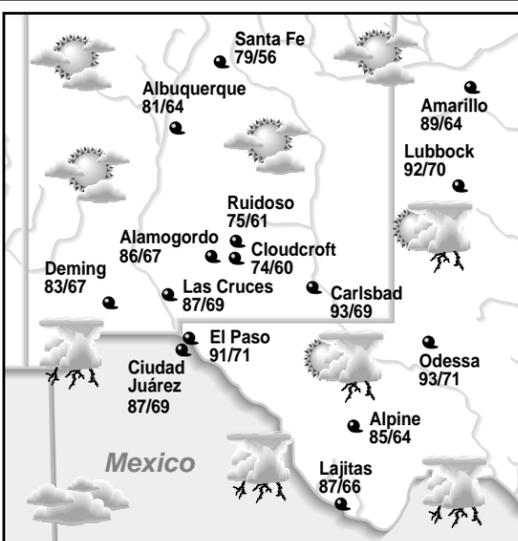
The exclusive AccuWeather composite of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

Thursday	87°
Friday	85°
Saturday	83°
Sunday	80°
Monday	84°
Tuesday	90°
Wednesday	93°

### TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	87	71
Canutillo	88	72
Clint	87	70
E. Montana	91	71
Fabens	87	70
Horizon	88	72
San Elizario	85	69
Socorro	89	70
Tornillo	87	70
Vinton	88	72

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	81/64/pc	86/62/pc	85/62/s	85/62/pc	82/54/c
Atlanta	90/72/pc	88/72/pc	86/70/pc	86/68/pc	87/70/pc
Atlantic City	83/68/pc	85/70/s	80/66/pc	83/58/c	79/58/s
Austin/San Antonio	92/74/pc	91/72/pc	92/70/c	92/70/pc	94/69/pc
Baltimore	86/66/pc	90/69/pc	86/69/pc	86/72/c	81/59/pc
Boston	80/60/s	80/66/s	82/66/pc	82/66/c	72/55/s
Chicago	86/66/pc	80/60/pc	74/60/pc	74/58/s	76/57/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	96/76/pc	92/74/c	90/70/c	90/70/pc	92/71/pc
Denver	84/55/pc	80/54/s	82/56/s	79/58/c	78/47/c
Flagstaff	74/48/pc	76/50/s	76/50/s	76/47/t	70/36/c
Houston	94/75/pc	94/75/pc	94/75/pc	92/73/pc	92/73/pc
Kansas City	92/66/pc	86/60/pc	84/56/pc	81/62/pc	82/58/pc
Las Vegas	102/78/pc	100/78/s	100/78/s	96/76/s	96/74/s
Miami	88/80/pc	91/78/pc	90/78/c	89/78/c	90/75/c
Minneapolis	75/56/c	71/52/pc	69/50/pc	70/53/pc	69/48/c
New Orleans	90/76/pc	90/77/pc	91/76/pc	90/76/pc	91/76/c
New York City	83/70/s	86/71/pc	81/62/pc	82/65/c	77/61/pc
Philadelphia	86/68/s	90/72/pc	86/70/pc	86/72/c	79/63/pc
Phoenix	102/82/pc	102/82/pc	102/82/s	98/80/c	99/73/pc
Portland	80/57/s	88/57/s	86/57/s	76/57/c	77/52/s
San Francisco	73/57/pc	67/57/pc	68/57/pc	72/56/s	71/51/s
Seattle	75/54/s	82/56/s	82/56/s	74/54/pc	72/48/s
Tucson	87/72/c	94/74/pc	96/74/s	92/74/pc	92/72/pc
Washington, DC	86/70/pc	90/72/pc	86/74/pc	86/76/c	81/63/pc

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

### AGRICULTURE

Moisture associated with the remnants of tropical system Ignacio will move east across the region Thursday and linger Friday before heading east this weekend. There can be 3-7 hours of sun, but also a few thunderstorms that may bring up to 0.20 of an inch of rain Thursday with a stray afternoon storm Friday, then dry through the weekend.

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

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