



NEWSBRIEFS

Drought continues

Drought in the Upper Rio Grande Basin, from southern Colorado to just below El Paso continues for the fifth year. The earlier, more optimistic water supply forecasts for the Upper Rio Grande dried up again this year with less than expected spring snowpack and windy, hot weather. After a one-month stop to conserve water, reservoir releases for New Mexico, Texas and Mexican agricultural water right owners were resumed May 21 and are now planned to continue to the end of the irrigation season which is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 20. United States Bureau of Reclamation staff who operate the reservoirs are working with water users, including the El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1, Elephant Butte Irrigation District, El Paso Water Utilities and Mexico-Juarez valley users to schedule releases and conserve water.

Help provided

To kick-off their new school year, 375 students participated this week in the annual El Paso Community Foundation Project First Impression program. El Paso area students from kindergarten to 12th grade went to Target with Project First Impression gift cards, shopping for much-needed school clothing, shoes and supplies. "The goal of Project First Impression is to get underprivileged students off to a good start for the school year," said Terry Crenshaw, vice president of programs for the Foundation. "The contributors work through the Foundation, which coordinates directly with other area non-profits, to reach those children who need assistance the most." An anonymous donor contributed \$25,000 to the El Paso Community Foundation especially to help low-income students get the best possible start for their new academic year, according to Crenshaw. This is the sixth consecutive year the source has sent funding to the Foundation for the program.

In other news

■ Canutillo ISD Board of Trustees will hold ribbon-cutting ceremonies for classroom wing additions at three of the district's campuses during open house events at 6 p.m. at each campus: Bill Childress Elementary, Tuesday, Aug. 24; Jose Damian Elementary, Wednesday, Aug. 25; and Canutillo Middle School, Thursday, Aug. 26. The 10-classroom wings are part of the bond issuance approved by voters in April of 2003, to enhance the District's facilities and relieve overcrowding at the three campuses. Canutillo ISD School Board members and administrators at each campus, as well as representatives from the architect firm, construction company, and contractors involved in the facilities improvement projects. The public is invited. Information, call 877-7481.

See BRIEFS, Page 4

A man with a new idea is often considered a crank — until the idea succeeds.

— Quips & Quotes



DROPPING IN — State Senator Frank L. Madla (D), (standing third from the left) and his staff paid a visit to the San Elizario Independent School District on Tuesday. Madla will serve the constituents of District 19, which includes 23 counties. Parts of El Paso County are included in District 19, which include the entire San Elizario, Fabens, Tornillo, Ft. Hancock school districts and parts of Ysleta, Socorro, and Clint school districts. Senator Madla is set to formally open a district office in El Paso this week at 480 Americas Avenue, Suite A-1, El Paso, Texas, 79901. Also pictured are Borrego Elementary principal Sylvia Hopp (center) and San Elizario superintendent Dr. Mike Quatrini (far right).

Horizon council to rename streets

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

HORIZON CITY — Horizon City officials have agreed to change the names of the two streets which fork off of Eastlake Blvd. — Landis Curlee street and the southern section of Eastlake — due to the confusion it apparently creates for service providers.

John Dixon, Horizon's director of public works, told Council during the Aug. 10 regular meeting that he recommended changing the names that affect Eastlake Blvd. and Landis Curlee street.

According to Dixon, many public service providers, such as Emergency Medical Service, have found that the street named Landis Curlee has many times been confused as a continuation of Eastlake Blvd.

In order to eliminate the confusion and provide better service to the community, Dixon said he recommends changing Landis Curlee to Eastlake Blvd., and renaming the southern part of Eastlake to another name yet to be se-

lected. One suggestion is to name this section as a continuation of Kenazo. Kenazo is directly across Horizon Blvd. from the south end of Eastlake Blvd.

This would affect the businesses and Desert Hills Elementary located on this part of Eastlake, but Dixon said he would begin the process of asking those who are to be affected by this name change to participate in the renaming of the south section of Eastlake Blvd.

Council approved the recommendation for the street name changes. It was mentioned that it would be recommended to area developers that they name one of their streets after Landis Curlee, a longtime area community servant and educator.

The name changes will come into effect as soon as a new name for the south section of Eastlake is chosen.

During open forum, former Horizon City Mayor Lillard Thompson addressed Council, recommending that they consider using the bonds that were passed in May before interest

See HORIZON, Page 3

Fabens and Tornillo dual-district event met with positive results

By Rudy Barreda
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Expanded learning opportunities and a chance to network with others were the order of the day for teachers in Fabens and Tornillo ISDs at the 2004 Educators' Kickoff Forum, held Aug. 10 at Fabens Middle School. By merging their resources for this joint professional development day, both districts were able to provide almost 300 teachers with a large array of staff development activities. Many of the presentations were given by in-house educators and program directors from both districts, as well as by experts from various local and state entities.

After a brief welcome from Fabens ISD Superintendent Poncho Garcia and Tornillo ISD Superintendent Paul Vranish, the forum began with a humorous and inspirational talk given by the opening guest speaker, Jim Walsh, a well-known lawyer specializing in school law. In 1983 he started his own law firm — Walsh, Anderson, Brown, Schulze and Aldridge — which represents Texas public schools. Walsh is also co-publisher of the Texas School Administrator's Legal Digest, for which he writes the popular "Law Dawg" column. During his address, Walsh praised teachers for the hard work and tremendous dedication they pro-

vide, despite frequent criticism and a lack of support from many segments of today's society.

Teachers then had the opportunity to attend five sessions from a group of over 30 provided throughout the day. A wide variety of session topics were offered, from computer web design to sexual harassment in schools. Also offered were a number of sessions that focused on special programs and instructional strategies that teachers may use to better meet the diverse needs of their students.

Probably the most important aspect of the day was the fact that teachers were able to learn and refine their skills in a fun, unique way. They were able to connect with teachers from another school district, and share their expertise and experiences in a forum rarely provided by a joint-district venture.

"Learning can and should be fun," said Superintendent Vranish during his opening remarks. The feedback given by the vast majority of the teachers was that their day was, in fact, fun and inspirational, as well as informative. District officials anticipate that, due to the success of the forum, teachers will maintain their enthusiasm and sense of fun to share with their students. Both districts began classes Aug. 16.

"The response has been extremely positive," stated Pat Silva, Fabens ISD Director of Instruction. "Teachers are already asking if we will do this with Tornillo again next year!"

Canutillo ISD to keep sports ticket prices the same this year

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

CANUTILLO — In the future, football fans could find it cheaper to go to home football games in the Canutillo ISD, but it won't be this year.

The cost of tickets to high school home football games in the Canutillo ISD could come down in the future, but will remain the same this year at \$4 and \$2 for adults and students respectively. The proposed prices apply to all varsity athletic events, not just football.

Consideration of cutting ticket prices by 25 percent came at the Aug. 10 meeting of the board of trustees of the Canutillo school district.

Out of concern for low-income families, Canutillo ISD board member Raphael Reyes proposed a reduction in prices for adult and student tickets for Canutillo High's home football games.

His motion was to cut the price of an adult ticket, at the gate, 25 percent from the current \$4 to \$3. Student tickets, in Reyes' proposal, would also be cut 25 percent to \$1.50.

Reyes withdrew his motion after it was decided that more information was needed regarding financial impact on cutting prices as well as the possible problem of finding quality referees for the home football games.

Superintendent Charles Hart predicts boundary lines between Canutillo and El Paso school districts becoming a "hot issue" in the future. He foresees various groups requesting boundary adjustments.

"We won't give up an inch of land," he pledged. He urged board members to stand firm with the existing boundary lines and that no changes be made.

The board honored Evangelina Martinez, Elementary Teacher of the Year, and Florence Schetgen, Secondary Teacher of the Year. They will represent the district in Region 19's 2005 Teacher of the Year program. Canutillo's Kayann McMillie was named Texas Elementary Teacher of the Year for 2003-04.

"All teachers are Teachers of the Year," said Martinez who is starting her 40th year as a teacher. "I will continue to do my best for the children and for Canutillo."

Schetgen said it was a "tremendous honor" to be recognized by the district. She spoke of a "renewed anticipation" for her as she stepped into her empty classroom in preparation for the new year.

Comptroller Tony Reza updated board members on the proposed preliminary budget of \$34.9 million for the coming school year. This compares to \$32.6 for the past school year. He discussed the impact of the tax rate and debt service.

With higher assessed property values, he said the district is slowly becoming more of a suburban school district.

A special board meeting will be held on Aug. 19 to discuss the tax rate and other budget matters. A public hearing on the new budget would be held on Aug. 23. Both meetings would be held at 6 p.m. in the district's administrative building, 7965 Artcraft.



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

A good healthy dose of shame

Our folks used to say things like "shame on you, you should be ashamed of yourself, and other phrases to let us know we'd really messed up."

The idea was that if, as children, we could learn there are certain things you just don't do — things that generate this most unwelcome feeling of shame — as we grew up we would begin to exercise self-control to avoid it.

Now, I really dislike feeling

ashamed. And I don't think it's a good idea to beat up a kid with too much shame. It stops working if it's misused — it can even become a terribly destructive force.

But shame is sadly absent these days. If I had his phone number I'd give him a call.

It's come to the point that we, as a society, aren't ashamed of anything. We'll talk about anything in public, do anything in public. We dress in ways that advertise just how unashamed we are. And our behavior toward ourselves and others is

equally shameless.

As a matter of fact, most folks these days think it is a violation of their "rights" if you even *think* something they did was shameful, especially if you say so out loud and in public.

Witness the case of the mail thief in San Francisco.

Shawn Gementera wasn't ashamed — in fact, he felt it was a "victimless" crime for him to steal mail. So a judge sentenced him to wear a signboard stating: "I stole mail. This is my punishment." And he had to do it standing outside a San Francisco post office. Gementera appealed, arguing the signboard served no purpose other than to humiliate him. A U.S. federal court upheld the sentence, but unfortunately, Gementera was right about one thing.

He could feel humiliation — but not shame.

Then there's Joe Arpaio, Sheriff of Maricopa County in Arizona, who has been standing the no-shame-anywhere-ever crowd on its ear for years now.

We've all seen documentaries about this man because he's so politically incorrect. In all honesty, I don't see how he continues to get away with it — but he keeps getting

elected.

His policy of housing his prisoners in tents, denying them luxuries and making the guys wear pink underwear and use pink towels — besides making the inmates actually do manual labor — puts the blame squarely where it should lie. His answer to everything, in a nutshell: I didn't invite you here. If you don't like the accommodations, don't come back.

Much as I admire the man's guts and I applaud whatever results he manages to achieve, the big problem is that by the time these people arrive at his establishment, they're pretty much like the mail thief.

They can understand public humiliation but they don't understand private shame. It's a hard lesson to teach a grownup.

From the oval office of the White House to the dog house in my backyard, the standards of conduct are pretty much the same nowadays. The dog does what she does because, well, she's a dog. Human beings are doing what they do these days because, well, there is little or no condemnation for doing it.

We sure don't want to be judgmental, now do we?

It is interesting how people who are engaging in shameful behavior

don't just want to be left alone, either. They want to do it in public, on national television, in-your-face, and you'd better like it — or else.

The tables have turned so that the person who is likely to suffer censure is the person who is simply not in agreement with this philosophy.

Shame is the baby our society threw out with the bathwater. While the Scarlet Letter idea wasn't such a good one, neither is the idea that Big Me is entitled to do whatever I want, where ever I want and with whom ever I want, and with total acceptance if not outright encouragement.

The clarion call these days — especially among women, since men have always behaved like this — is that it's my own body and no one has a right to tell me what to do with it.

Take a look at the average teenager at the mall, at Wal-Mart, even at school, and you have to admit that our society has conceded the point. We've given up on trying to instill the concept — through our example, straightforward instruction and honest loving concern — that some things are just simply shameful.

We missed the mark back when they were kids, when we really could have made a difference.

What a shame.

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS

The City of Socorro is now accepting applications for a first time Homebuyers Program awarded through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). This program provides down payment and closing costs toward the purchase of a home. If you are looking for a new home come by our office for more information at the following address: 124 S. Horizon Blvd. or call our office at (915) 858-2915 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

AVISO PUBLICO

La Ciudad de Socorro esta aceptando aplicaciones para su programa de primeros compradores de casa por medio del Departamento de Viviendas y Asuntos Comunitarios (TDHCA). El programa le audara en el enganche y cierre sobre la compra de una casa. Si tiene preguntas sobre este programa por favor comuniquese con El Departamento de Proyectos Especiales al numero (915) 858-2915 o pase a la oficina de lunes a viernes de 9 de la mañana a 4 p.m. de la tarde en la presidencia municipal, 124 S. Horizon Blvd. en Socorro, Texas 79927.

WTCC: 08/19/04

Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes



Hispanics are hurt by consumer scams

A new survey by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the federal agency that protects the needs of con-

sumers, found that Hispanics are much more likely to be victims of fraud than non-Hispanic individuals. In fact, over 14 percent of Hispanics were victims; while only about six percent of non-Hispanic whites were victims. While this survey holds par-

ticular significance for El Paso due to our large Hispanic population, it also signals that regardless of ethnicity, we need to be increasingly vigilant in fighting fraud and protecting our finances.

The most frequently reported types of consumer fraud were:

- Advance-fee loan scams: Four and a half million consumers paid advance fees for "guaranteed" loans or credit cards, but never received the promised loan or card.

- Buyers clubs: Four million consumers were billed for memberships they did not authorize or publications they did not order.

- Credit card insurance scams: While federal law limits consumers' credit card fraud liability to \$50, fraudsters sold 3.3 million consumers unnecessary credit card insurance by falsely claiming that card holders face significant financial risk if their credit cards are misused.

- Credit repair: Some fraudsters convinced two million consumers they can help remove truthful, negative information from their credit report, or establish a new credit record. However, they cannot and these credit repair schemes are illegal.

Earlier this year, the FTC announced the creation of the Hispanic Law Enforcement and Outreach Initiative to address the increasing number of scams and deceptive advertising aimed at Spanish-speaking consumers. The FTC now provides consumer information in Spanish, has increased outreach to Spanish-language media and has built partnerships with leaders in the Hispanic community. As a result of this survey, the FTC will enhance the Initiative to target the types of fraud listed in the survey and therefore better meet the needs of the Hispanic community.

Publications to help consumers avoid scams — and information on how to file a consumer complaint — are available in English and Spanish through the FTC's website (www.ftc.gov) and through my website (www.house.gov/reyes).



TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, August 19, 1927: Charles Swen sets a Shorthand speed record of 1412 words in 5 minutes at the Shorthand Convention in San Antonio.



WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

SERVING ANTHONY VINTOS, CASUTILLO, EAST MONTANA, HORIZON, SOCORRO, CLAY, FABENS, SAN ELIZABO AND TURNELLO

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

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.

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ADDRESS:
15344 Werling Court
Horizon City, TX 79928

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

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

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



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.

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.

I'm proud to have helped the Congress pass the president's education plan. We're already seeing improve-

ments 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 receive 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.

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.

Horizon

From Page 1

rates rise.

A public hearing was also held regarding second reading on an ordinance regulating ethical conduct for

officers and employees. There was no public input and Council approved the ordinance.

In other business, Council also approved making a recommendation to developers to name a street in Horizon City in honor of the late Bill Rutherford, Horizon City's first chief of police.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The **San Elizario Independent School District** will hold a public meeting at 5:30 p.m., Monday, August 30, 2004 in the SEISD Administration Office, 1050 Chicken Ranch Road, San Elizario, Texas. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted.** Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates

| | Maintenance & Operation | Interest & Sinking Fund* | Total | Local Revenue Per Student | State Revenue Per Student |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Last Year's Rate | \$ 1.500000 | \$ 0.077326* | \$ 1.577326 | \$ 411 | \$ 6,276 |
| Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service | \$ 1.487827 | \$ 0.071699* | \$ 1.559526 | \$ 439 | \$ 6,258 |
| Proposed Rate | \$ 1.500000 | \$ 0.071699* | \$ 1.571699 | \$ 443 | \$ 6,278 |

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

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

| | Last Year | This Year |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Average Market Value of Residences | \$ 37,367 | \$ 40,459 |
| Average Taxable Value of Residences | \$ 22,367 | \$ 25,394 |
| Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value | \$ 1.577326 | \$ 1.571699 |
| Taxes Due on Average Residence | \$ 352.80 | \$ 399.12 |
| Increase (Decrease) in Taxes | | \$ 46.32 |

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

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.619527. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.619527.

Fund Balances

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

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) | \$ 3,328,523 |
| Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) | \$ 139,341 |

Town of Horizon City Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

The **Town of Horizon City** will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll by **23.95 percent**. Your individual taxes may increase or 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 **Tuesday, August 31, 2004 at 6:30 p.m.** at Town Hall, 14999 Darrington Rd., Horizon City, TX 79928.

FOR proposal: Council Members: Taylor, Blobner, Borst, Miller, Rutledge, and Greseth

AGAINST the proposal: none

PRESENT and not voting: none

ABSENT: Reyes

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.

| | Last Year | This Year |
|--|---------------|--------------------------|
| Average residence homestead value | \$81,873.00 | \$88,740.00 |
| General exemptions available (Amount available on the average homestead, not including senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions) | \$-0- | \$-0- |
| Average taxable value | \$81,857.00 | \$87,748.00 |
| Tax rate | .287500/\$100 | .287500/\$100 (proposed) |
| Tax | \$235.34 | \$252.28 |

Under this proposal taxes on the average homestead would increase by \$16.94 or 7.20 percent compared with last year's taxes. Comparing tax rates without adjusting for changes in property value, the tax rate would increase by \$0.00 per \$100 of taxable value or 0.00 percent compared to last year's tax rate. These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF THE FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT and NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Town of Anthony
P.O. Box 1269
Anthony, Texas 79821
(915) 886-3944

August 14, 2004

TO: All Interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals:

Seventeen (17) days after this publication, the Town of Anthony intends to request that the Office of Rural Community Affairs (ORCA) of the State of Texas release federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), for TCDP FY 2004 Project No. 724029.

Texas Community Development Program Contract #724029 Sewer System Improvements Project:

- Installation of approximately 1,600 linear feet of 18" pipe burst outfall sewer line to replace obsolete line; modification of 11 existing manholes; and 30 tie-ins to existing sewer lines.
- Installation of new flow meter at breakpoint chlorination.

(See project map.)

Location: Town of Anthony, Texas

Construction Cost: \$181,200

Finding of No Significant Impact

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

The town has made an Environmental Review Record for the proposed project, which 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 Town Hall and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Public Comments on Findings

All interested agencies, groups, and individuals disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the town at the address 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 town will not request the release of funds or take administrative action on the project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

Release of Funds

The Town of Anthony will undertake the activities described above with funds from Texas Community Development Program Grant No. 724029 issued from Community Development Block Grants Funds under Title I from the 2004 Program Year, under the provisions of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The Town of Anthony is certifying to the ORCA that the Honorable Art Franco, in his official capacity as Mayor of the Town of Anthony, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental review, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that, upon its approval, the town may use the Block Grant funds and it will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The Office of Rural Community Affairs 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 TX 78711.

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

Art Franco, Mayor
Town of Anthony

Date Published:
August 19, 2004

Briefs

From Page 1

■ The Canutillo ISD provides free and safe internet access to students, staff and community members. However, all users must complete an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) form prior to having access to the Canutillo wide-area-network (WAN). School officials are asking all parents to complete the AUP form online by coming to their child's campus. "All students are required to have permission from their parents, in order to use the technology services of the district," said Martha Veale, Canutillo ISD Information Technology Director. The district has added as many as 1,800 new computers to its campuses, which brings the total to 3,200 computers district-wide. Ninety-four percent of the computers are for student use.

■ Boll weevil eradication assessment notices have been mailed to cotton producers in the El Paso/Trans Pecos eradication zone. The assessments are based on information cotton producers provide the Farm Service Agency when they certify their crops. If growers find an error in the information on their billing, they will need to correct the information at their local FSA office and forward the corrected information to the Foundation. Payment is due Sept. 14, but a two percent discount is available to growers who pay the full assessment by Aug. 30. The Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation would like to remind cotton producers and custom harvesters that the commissioner of agriculture declared several areas of the state to be suppressed or functionally eradicated of the cotton boll weevil, and movement of

raw cotton products and harvesting equipment into or through these zones may be regulated.

■ Socorro ISD high school students and parents who want to learn more about area universities will meet representatives of four area institutions during the SISD Regional Collegiate Forum, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Aug. 25 in the Americas High School Theater, 12101 Pellicano Drive. Students will be able to obtain answers to questions about offerings, registration, funding, campus life and more from representatives of UTEP, NMSU in Las Cruces, El Paso Community College, and Sul Ross State University in Alpine. The District is also planning a National Collegiate Forum Sept. 22 and a Texas Collegiate Forum Oct. 21. The public is invited, admission is free. For more information, call SISD's Guidance and Counseling office, 937-0321 or your school's counseling office.

■ Texas Department of Health (TDH) officials say people who are receiving rabies prevention treatment after being exposed to a sheep at the Fossil Rim Wildlife Center near Glen Rose should continue their treatment. Though testing by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention did not determine that the sheep had rabies, two different types of tests done earlier by the TDH laboratory in Austin were positive for the deadly virus. Health officials are trying to determine why the TDH and CDC test results were different. Citing the fact that rabies is always fatal once symptoms begin, TDH officials say they will continue to recommend post-exposure rabies prevention treatment for people exposed to the sheep until there is irrefutable evidence that the sheep was not infected.

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• Faucet and Sprinkler Repair
• Appliance Installation
• Evaporative Cooler Service

Horizon Plumbing
852-1079

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...with Central American countries
where 40% of workers earn less than
TWO DOLLARS a day...

Is a bad deal for America.

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Socorro technology department adds Long to staff

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Socorro ISD's Department of Technology Services has added Raymond Long to its staff.

A graduate of the University of Texas at El Paso Long is now Manager of Technical Services and leads the Network and Operational Services departments. He



Raymond Long

comes to Socorro after working at U.T. El Paso, the City of El Paso and for Doña Ana County, New Mexico.

"The best philosophy is to work hard and do the right thing so that others around me can shine," Long says. "We need to know that we're service oriented, so we can help people excel and then we all should look good after the fact."

Long says the challenge of technology is often finding specific solutions to the District's needs. "If we implement the right solution say, for Personnel Services, then they can do

their job a lot easier and quicker, and so can the other departments that depend on them."

Long received his Bachelor of Science degree in engineering from U.T. El Paso and worked at its computer

center; he holds both Microsoft and Cisco Systems certifications.

The District's Technology Services department operates and maintains SISD's telecommunications, computer hardware and software systems.

A Trade Deal

...with Central American countries that will not only import American jobs but also export cheap labor...

Is a bad deal for America.

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Haciendas Del Norte Water Improvement District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Haciendas Del Norte Water Improvement District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2004 on September 2, 2004 at 13931 Sagebrush Circle, El Paso, Texas 79938 at 7:30 pm. Your individual taxes may increase or 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.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| FOR the proposal: | Frank Wood, Jim Funk, Robert Lucero, Daniel Diaz, Joseph McCandless |
| AGAINST the proposal: | NONE |
| PRESENT and not voting: | NONE |
| ABSENT: | NONE |

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

| | Last Year | This Year |
|---|------------|----------------|
| Total tax rate (per \$100 value) | \$ 0.455 | \$0.389998 |
| Difference in rates per \$100 of value | | -\$ (0.065002) |
| Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-) | | -14.286% |
| Average appraised value | \$ 105,265 | \$ 127,331 |
| General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled persons exemptions) | 0 | 0 |
| Average taxable value | \$ 105,265 | \$ 127,331 |
| Tax on average residence homestead | \$ 478.96 | \$ 496.59 |
| Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) | | +\$17.63 |
| and percentage of increase (+/-) | | 3.68% |

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

If taxes on the average residence homestead increase by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the rollback tax rate under Section 49.236(d), Water Code.

Clint Independent School District SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Clint Independent School District provides the following educational program/services to identified disabled children who reside within the district beginning on the third birthday through age twenty-one.

- 1) Instructional Program: including Early Childhood (beginning on the third birthday through age five), Resource (grades K-12) and Self-Contained (grades K-12)
- 2) Diagnostic Services
- 3) Transportation Services
- 4) Speech Therapy
- 5) Counseling Services
- 6) Adaptive Equipment Services
- 7) Physical Therapy
- 8) Occupational Therapy
- 9) School Health Services
- 10) Homebound Services

Services are provided to identified auditorial and visually impaired children who reside within the district from birth through age twenty-one and to private/home school students who qualify for special education services, .

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and Public Law 105-17, parents and adult students have the right to inspect educational records. District policies FL and FL-E provide for record access, confidentiality, and complaint procedures.

If you would like more information or know of a disabled child who is not receiving educational services, please contact the Special Education Director at 125 Brown Street, Clint, Texas 79836, or call (915) 851-8383.

SERVICIOS DE EDUCACION ESPECIAL

El distrito escolar de Clint provee los siguientes programas/ servicios educacionales a niños que son identificados como deshabilitados que viven dentro del distrito comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta los 21 años.

- 1) programa de instrucción: infancia temprana (comenzando con el tercer cumpleaños hasta la edad de cinco años), cuarto de recurso (K-12), y clases contenidas (K-12)
- 2) servicios diagnósticos
- 3) servicios de transportación
- 4) terapia de habla
- 5) servicios de consejo
- 6) servicios de equipaje adaptivo
- 7) terapia física
- 8) terapia ocupacional
- 9) servicios de salud escolar
- 10) servicios de clases en el hogar

Se provee servicios a niños identificados como deshabilitados audible y visualmente que viven dentro del distrito desde nacimiento hasta la edad de 21 años y para estudiantes en clases privadas/en el hogar que califican para servicios de educación especial.

Conforme al Acto de Derechos y Confidencia Educacionales de Familia de 1974 y Ley Publica 105-17, padres y alumnos adultos tienen el derechos de ver los archivos educativos. Polizas FL y FL-E explican los derechos, la confidencialidad, y el proceso para quejarse.

Si usted desea mas información o sabe de un niño/niña deshabilitado que vive en el distrito escolar de Clint que no esta recibiendo servicios educacionales, favor de comunicarse con la Directora de Educación Especial en la direccion 125 Brown Street, Clint, Texas 7938, o al numero (915) 851-8383.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Socorro Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 24, 2004 in the Education Center Board Room, 12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

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

| Comparison of Proposed Rates with last Year's Rates | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Maintenance & Operation | Interest & Sinking Fund* | Total | Local Revenue Per Student | State Revenue Per Student |
| Last Year's Rate | \$ 1.4006 | \$ 0.2019* | \$ 1.6025 | \$1,692 | \$4,847 |
| Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service | \$ 1.3684 | \$ 0.2819* | \$ 1.6503 | \$ 1,821 | \$4,728 |
| Proposed Rate | \$ 1.3684 | \$ 0.2819* | \$ 1.6503 | \$ 1,821 | \$4,728 |

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

| Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence | | |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| | Last Year | This Year |
| Average Market Value of Residences | \$ 75,357 | \$81,892 |
| Average Taxable Value of Residences | \$ 60,338 | \$66,717 |
| Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value | \$ 1.6025 | \$ 1.6503 |
| Taxes Due on Average Residence | \$ 966.92 | \$ 1,101.03 |
| Increase (Decrease) in Taxes | | \$ 134.11 |

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

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.7103. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.7103.

Fund Balances

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

| | | |
|--|----|-----|
| Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) | \$ | -0- |
| Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) | \$ | -0- |

UTEP gaining national attention

Price was worth the price

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

There's a buzz in the El Paso air and it has nothing to do with West Nile Virus-carrying mosquitoes.

Here we are just a couple weeks before the 2004 college football season and the talk around El Paso is centered around new head coach Mike Price and the UTEP football team.

The fact that the city is anxious to see what a big time college football coach can do at a teeny tiny football school like UTEP isn't that surprising. What's shocking for this neck of the woods is the attention the Miners are getting from national media outlets.

Usually the Miners go to Socorro, New Mexico every pre-season and the only people who care are those few die-hard Miners fans and the players and coaches themselves.

But during the Miners' first day at Camp Socorro this year, who's on hand to do a story on the Miners but none other than the ESPN Game Day crew, represented by analyst Kirk Herbstreit.

Wait a second, ESPN Game Day was interested in the UTEP Miners football team? That can't be right. Those guys only cover teams like Florida State and Notre Dame and Alabama and Southern Cal and Michigan and Miami and Texas and Ohio State and Oklahoma and... well, you get the point.

The plain fact of the matter is ESPN would never have given UTEP a second or third look if not for Mike Price.

Again, let me say that for once, UTEP got it right. The usually conservative school by the border took a bold chance at hiring the beleaguered coach when other colleges wouldn't, and the dividends are already paying off.

Look at Socorro — Herbstreit sat down with Price for an interview that will be aired the last week in August as part of ESPN's preview of the up-

coming season. An ESPN cameraman had free reign around the UTEP players as they went about their drills.

All this attention for a team that has won just six games in three seasons?

I was walking along the sidelines that day in Socorro thinking that I never thought I would see anything like this at UTEP. The Miners are now getting nationwide interest that will help recruiting and make them a top-25 team in three years.

No, I am not at a bar right now consuming adult beverages. I truly believe Price will make UTEP a top team within three years, but that's only if Price and his staff stay here.

I really believe Price can do here what he did at Washington State. UTEP now has the facilities to build a program that can be compared with many of the top schools in the nation.

And all the publicity can only help make this happen.

Last weekend, ESPN.com carried a long article by Ted Miller about Mike Price and the Miners. The article was positive and just the latest of many stories on UTEP football.

The Miners will likely go out and win five or six games this season. And six would match the total of the last three seasons combined. But no matter what the Miners do this season, wait for the next two years — we are in for one heck of a football ride.

Lost Angeles Lakers

The Lakers have definitely seen better days.

Not only is the Kobe Bryant rape case still ongoing, Shaquille O'Neal is gone and now playing for the Miami Heat.

Gary Payton, Rick Fox and Derek Fisher are also gone. Karl Malone will probably retire and coach Phil Jackson quit the team.

Oh, and Vlade Divac was hired to replace Shaq — enough said.

If all that isn't enough to make

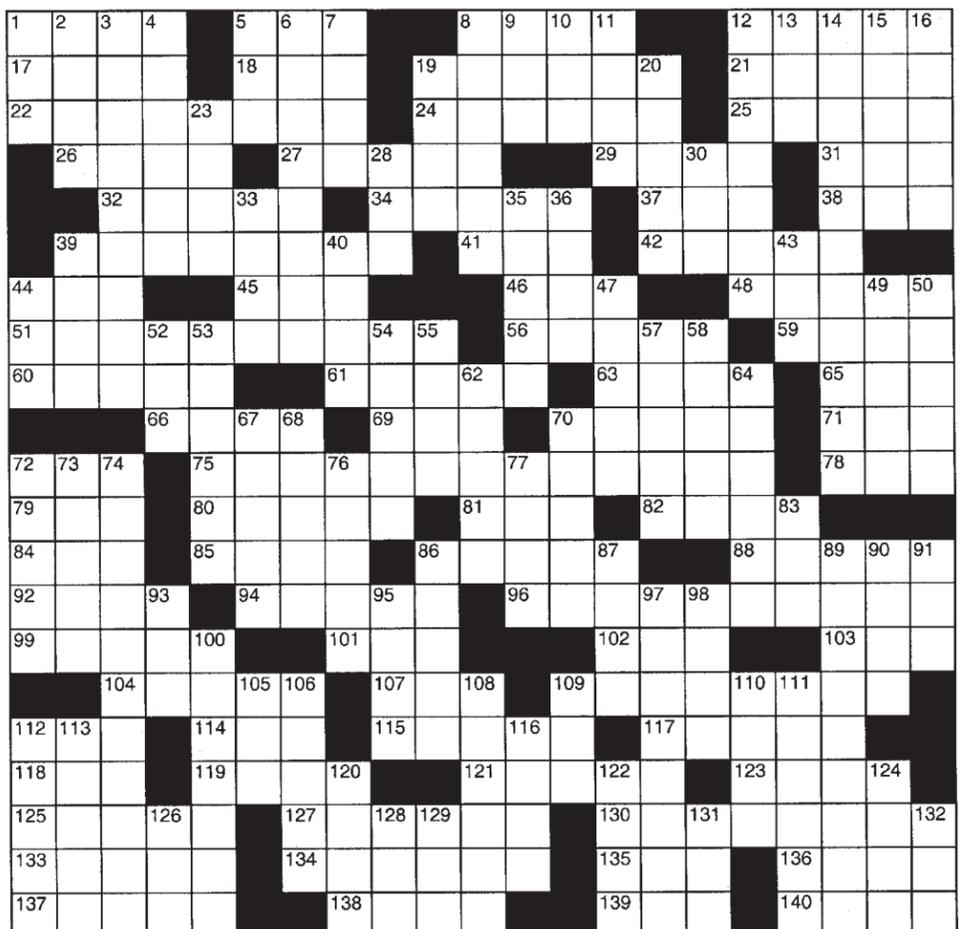
See SPORTS, Page 7

King Super Crossword

THEIR SONGS

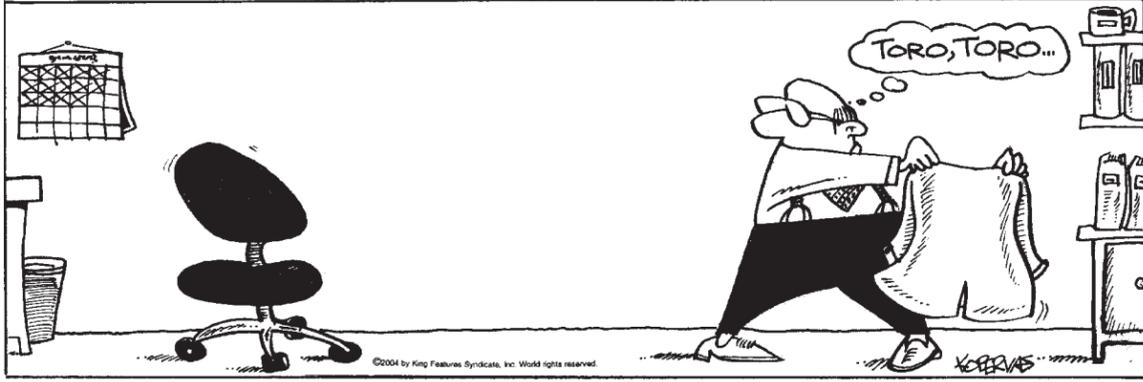
- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 61 Islamic holy book | Charles | 74 Don McLean's |
| 1 Clerical garments | 63 "Mila 18" author | 118 Caravansary | dessert? |
| 5 Rhine whine? | 65 "The Crying Game" star | 119 Blocks the way | 76 Fiennes of "Quiz Show" |
| 8 Put on a happy face | 66 Isinglass | 121 Angler's basket | 77 Olympic |
| 12 Like Mozart's flute | 69 Flat hat | 123 Fido's dinner, perhaps | troublemaker |
| 17 86 Across, e.g. | 70 Tiny parasite | 125 Katmandu's | 83 Super Bowl sound |
| 18 Actress Joanne | 71 Cask | 20 Wagner's father-country | 86 Winning |
| 19 See 19 Down | 72 Lingerie purchase | 23 Challenge | 87 Some NCOs |
| 21 Hersey setting | 75 The Cyrkle's plaything? | 28 Tomorrow's turtle | 89 "The Sheik" star |
| 22 Elvis' canine? | 78 Accounting abbr. | 30 Litter sound | 90 Laid on buttercream |
| 24 Verdi opera | 79 Computer acronym | 33 Classy doc? | 91 Aspen item |
| 25 Like Kansas? | 80 They may be bright | 35 Decorate | 93 Crony |
| 26 Big beginning | 81 Blunder | 36 Sticky stuff | 95 Heavy reading? |
| 27 Quire part | 82 Barbecue | 39 Evangelist Roberts | 97 Utter |
| 29 Cadet sch. | 84 Blow away | 40 Recess | 98 Julia of "The Addams Family" |
| 31 Tierra _ Fuego | 85 Push a product | 43 Holm or Hunter | 100 Bakery buy |
| 32 Felons, for instance | 86 "Manon" melodies | 44 Attorneys' org. | 105 It's in the bag |
| 34 Like Peter or Catherine | 88 Confederate president | 47 Up or down item? | 106 Stern |
| 37 Oxford omega | 92 Goldfish, e.g. | 49 Mil. rank | 108 Squabble |
| 38 Archaic | 94 Profundity | 50 Largest antelope | 109 Relished a roast |
| preposition | 96 Jimmy Gilmer's house? | 52 Comic DeLuise | 110 From |
| 39 General's gerund | 99 Early computer | 53 Spouse of Isis | 111 "Dead End Kid" Leo |
| 41 Vitamin bottle abbr. | 101 Scuffle | 54 Yoga position | 112 Underworld judge |
| 42 Finn's creator | 102 TV-listing abbr. | 55 Uninteresting | 113 Like a lummo |
| 44 Meyers of "Kate & Allie" | 103 Fragrant neckwear | 57 Zones | 116 Hands |
| 45 Plastic _ Band | 104 Material | 58 Perennial | 120 - aerobics |
| 46 Choose, with "for" | 107 Fairy queen | 62 Waves of grain color | 122 Catch sight of |
| 48 Syrup source | 109 Made milder | 64 Dieter's dishes | 124 Fill the hold |
| 51 Freda Payne's jewelry? | 112 Farrow of "Alice" | 67 Handed over | 126 Chemical suffix |
| 56 Change for the better | 114 Arthur or Benaderet | 68 Mr. Rochester's ward | 128 McGwire stat |
| 59 Roofers' need | 115 Proclamation | 70 Chilean pianist | 129 Indignation |
| 60 Los _ CA | 117 American poet | 72 Pair | 131 Unrefined |
| | | 73 Atkinson of "The Black Adder" | 132 Fashion monogram |

Answer Page 7

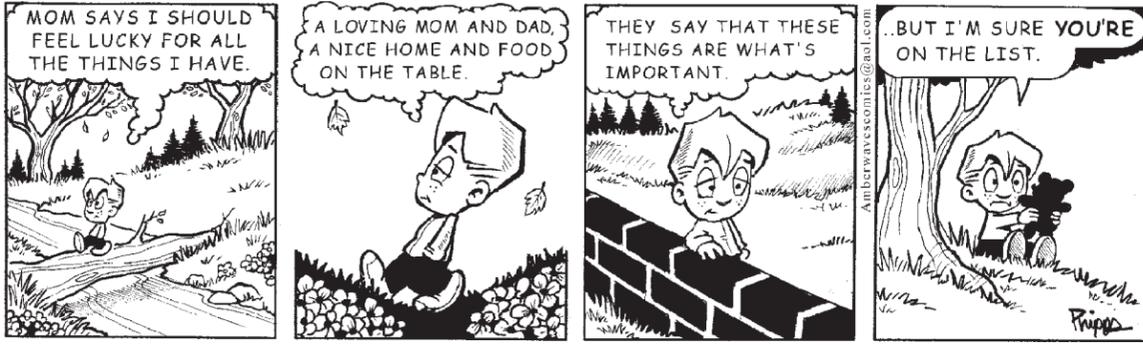


Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



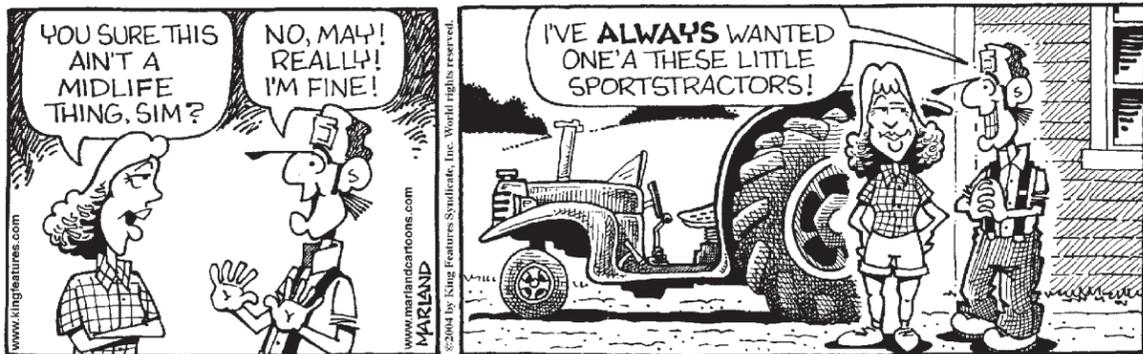
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Bush: Biker-in-Chief

By Don Flood

To the disappointment of many, especially myself, I will not be participating in the Olympics this year.

I had hoped to compete in my signature event — the 31-yard hallway dash — but was defeated in the Olympic trials by my 14-year-old son, who won the honor of representing the United States in Athens.

We were visiting my brother, who has an office with a long hallway, and so naturally we decided — right then and there — to hold the U.S. Olympic trials for the famed event. Unfortunately, this turned out to be a mistake, as I was insufficiently warmed up and wound up with a slight muscle pull.

(As is retold over and over each Olympics, the 31-yard hallway dash is a time-honored competition that commemorates the ancient Greek who ran down the hallway to warn his co-workers that the copier machine was low on toner.)

Fortunately, I have the consolation of being in good company. President Bush, despite his rigorous training, will not be participating in the exciting Fly-Over-The-Handlebars-And-Bust-Your-Head-Open Mountain Biking Event. Bush has now had two mountain-biking accidents, the most of any president since Martin "the Downhill Demon" Van Buren.

But the president, who said — this is true — that mountain biking helps "clear my mind," may still be able to put his training to use.

Instead of the usual debates, which tend to be inconclusive and dull, the Bush and Kerry camps are negotiating to stage what is believed to be the first presidential mountain-biking contest.

NBC has also offered, quite graciously, to host a special "Presidential Fear Factor," in which the can-

didates would prove their mettle by jumping off speeding trucks and eating maggots.

No official word on the latter yet, but the Kerry camp is said to be pushing for a cicada-eating contest, a format that Democratic strategists believe would favor the senator from Massachusetts. Bush's response: "Bring it on! I mean, bring them on... whatever bugs you got."

While I respect Bush's right to "clear his mind," I have some concern about a 58-year-old president potentially scrambling his brains on a mountain bike.

Used to be, presidents stuck to regular middle-aged-guy activities.

Richard Nixon, for instance, would relax by bowling and striking up conversations with the paintings of former presidents.

Gerald Ford, an avid golfer, "cleared his mind" by going out on the course and beaming bystanders.

In just two and a half years in office, Ford felled an estimated 73,000 onlookers. The problem became so acute that Secret Service agents were assigned to protect innocent bystanders rather than the president.

Finally, in desperation, Americans voted for Jimmy Carter, who ran on a platform of "world peace through less golf."

No one knows what Jimmy Carter did for relaxation, but he made such a big deal about "lusting" in his heart that historians have decided, thankfully, to leave that topic alone.

As for Bush, we'll know he may have taken one too many spills when he says something like, "Yup, I saw 'Fahrenheit 9/11' last night and it was just great! I think everybody should see it."

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Classified Ads

LEGAL

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:

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 2004

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS - NATIONAL CSP NO.199-0826-0502 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS - LOCAL CSP NO.199-0826-0501 ACCEPTED UNTIL 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-08/19/04

HELP WANTED

Ryan Supply is seeking applicants for several positions. ALL APPLICANTS MUST be 18, like to help people, be bilingual, have good math skills, be able to lift and stock shelves, and enjoy the challenge of a fast-paced work environment. Part-time cashier: Must have computer skills and be a problem solver. Loader/Stocker:

Must have valid TX driver's license with good driving record and be able to lift 94 lbs.

Customer Service: Must like to help people. Knowledge & experience in any or all of the following areas a plus, but not necessary: electrical, plumbing, paint, lawn and garden. Applications: Available at Ryan Supply, Inc./Ace Hardware. 117 N. Fabens St., Fabens, TX 79838.

REAL ESTATE

Two cul-de-sac lots approximately one-third acre each. Only \$16,500 each, will consider owner finance. Close to Socorro Rd. and Passmore. Please call for directions. All utilities available but not installed. Please call American Dream Real

Estate: Armando Lopez at 252-5740 or Rei Martinez, 630-9719.

8.09 acres @\$12,000 per acre. Located on Socorro Rd. between San Elizario and Quadrilla. All utilities are in the area, seller is not responsible for connections. American Dream Real Estate. Ask for Rei Martinez, 630-9719 or Armando Lopez, 252-5740.

SELF-HELP

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

Tiene problemas con el alcohol? Hay una solucion. Informacion: 838-6264.

SERVICES

ALTERATIONS EMBROIDERY Tees & More 14010 Horizon Blvd. **852-8956**

"Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring" **JIFFY GLASS REPAIR** Windshield Repair Specialists By appt. at your home or office: (No repairs within Horizon City) 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

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Sports

From Page 6

even the most faithful Laker fan shudder, this bit of news might do the job. Seems the Lakers are having a hard time just finding new players that aren't making more news in the court of law than on the court of basketball.

Marcus Douthit, the Lakers' second round draft choice out of Providence is obviously ambitious. Trouble is, he's been a little too am-

bitious in recent months.

Douthit has been arrested for being part of an identity theft and embezzlement scam, which has pocketed him thousands of dollars from insurance companies.

Unfortunately he traded quick cash for long-term financial gain — the Lakers were on the verge of giving him a guaranteed contract.

It appears the only guarantee in Douthit's future now will be a date before the judge.

It's hard to imagine, but Douthit's coming year may be even worse than the Lakers.

A Trade Deal

...with Central American countries that exploit child labor to steal jobs from hard working Americans like you...

Is a bad deal for America.

Political Advertising Paid for by: www.americansforfairtrade.org

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: I recently learned that if you were married at least 10 years and your marriage ended in divorce that I might be eligible for social security benefits on my ex spouse's social security record. I was married to the same individual twice but our first marriage lasted 6 years then we went through a divorce but remarried and my second marriage lasted 5 years. The only problem is that our second relationship was based on a common-law relationship. Would the common-law relationship be recog-

nized and would the 10 years requirement be met?

A: First of all we would have to examine your own social security record and determine if you would be eligible to receive any social security benefits on your own record or perhaps you might have worked for a government entity and government pension offset would be applicable. To answer your question, if you live in a state which recognizes common-law relation-

ship and you were free to enter into such a relationship and you held out to the public as husband and wife, social security does recognize common-law relationships but there would have to be documentation to support that the relationship did exist. Second, we would be able to combine both relationship periods to meet the 10 year marriage duration requirement.

Q: I have been self employed all my life and I have earned a decent living. I was able to support a family of 5 and able to send my kids through college. I was disappointed when I

learned how much I was going to receive in social security benefits.

A: When individuals are self employed, their social security tax is based on the net profits from your business. This is why it is so important that individuals such as yourself review your income tax returns for accuracy before you forward them to Internal Revenue Service. As self employed individuals, you have the tendency to rely on your accountants and tax return preparers. Their objective is to qualify for the lowest tax you have to pay at the end of the year. Well, individuals do not realize that

this also determines how much your social security benefits will be in the future. Remember, your social security benefits are based on the actual net profits you report which corresponds to the amount of taxes you pay into social security.

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

WEATHER

AccuWeather.com

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO

| THURSDAY | THUR. NIGHT | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| | | | | | | | |
| Partly sunny. | Clear to partly cloudy. | Mostly sunny. | Partial sunshine. | A good deal of sunshine. | Mostly sunny. | Intervals of clouds and sunshine. | Partly sunny. |
| ▲ 92° | ▼ 69° | ▲ 93° ▼ 71° | ▲ 96° ▼ 71° | ▲ 93° ▼ 69° | ▲ 93° ▼ 70° | ▲ 93° ▼ 69° | ▲ 92° ▼ 67° |

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

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

REAL FEEL TEMP™

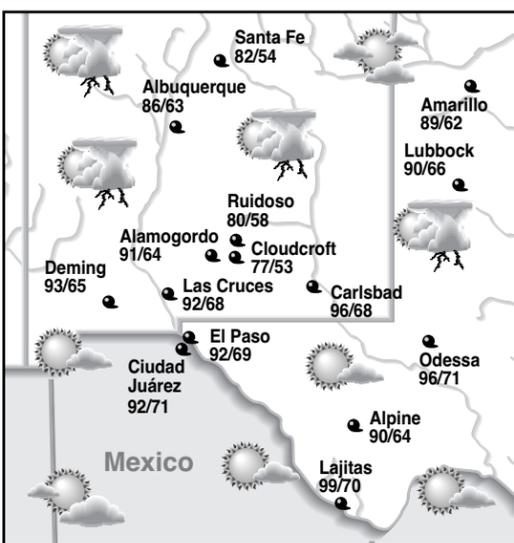
The exclusive AccuWeather composite of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Thursday | 91° |
| Friday | 86° |
| Saturday | 89° |
| Sunday | 87° |
| Monday | 90° |
| Tuesday | 94° |
| Wednesday | 91° |

TEXAS WEATHER

| | | |
|--------------|----|----|
| Anthony | 93 | 69 |
| Canutillo | 93 | 69 |
| Clint | 92 | 69 |
| E. Montana | 92 | 69 |
| Fabens | 92 | 69 |
| Horizon | 93 | 70 |
| San Elizario | 89 | 67 |
| Socorro | 91 | 68 |
| Tornillo | 92 | 69 |
| Vinton | 93 | 69 |

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



TRAVELERS CITIES

| City | Thur. Hi/Lo/W | Fri. Hi/Lo/W | Sat. Hi/Lo/W | Sun. Hi/Lo/W | Mon. Hi/Lo/W |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Albuquerque | 86/63/t | 86/63/s | 88/64/pc | 87/65/pc | 85/62/t |
| Atlanta | 90/70/t | 86/70/t | 84/68/t | 86/68/t | 88/68/pc |
| Atlantic City | 86/70/t | 84/67/t | 83/68/t | 82/65/pc | 81/63/r |
| Austin/San Antonio | 95/73/t | 96/72/s | 96/71/s | 97/73/s | 95/68/r |
| Baltimore | 88/70/t | 88/70/t | 86/66/t | 80/60/pc | 83/63/r |
| Boston | 84/67/t | 82/67/t | 82/65/t | 78/60/sh | 76/62/pc |
| Chicago | 78/58/sh | 76/56/sh | 76/58/pc | 78/62/pc | 78/61/pc |
| Dallas/Ft. Worth | 93/74/t | 93/74/t | 93/74/t | 93/73/t | 95/70/c |
| Denver | 71/52/t | 80/54/t | 82/58/pc | 86/58/pc | 86/58/s |
| Flagstaff | 73/48/t | 76/48/s | 76/50/s | 77/47/c | 74/48/c |
| Houston | 92/74/t | 93/76/t | 92/76/t | 92/76/t | 94/76/t |
| Kansas City | 83/66/t | 85/65/t | 85/63/pc | 86/64/r | 86/64/r |
| Las Vegas | 100/78/s | 100/76/s | 100/76/s | 98/76/s | 98/76/pc |
| Miami | 90/79/t | 90/79/t | 90/77/t | 88/77/t | 88/77/t |
| Minneapolis | 73/57/pc | 75/52/pc | 73/56/pc | 75/60/c | 78/61/r |
| New Orleans | 89/76/t | 89/76/t | 90/76/t | 90/75/t | 91/74/t |
| New York City | 86/72/t | 84/70/t | 80/70/t | 80/69/pc | 82/67/sh |
| Philadelphia | 88/72/t | 88/72/t | 84/68/t | 82/64/pc | 83/66/pc |
| Phoenix | 102/81/s | 103/81/s | 103/81/s | 101/82/s | 102/78/s |
| Portland | 85/61/s | 85/61/pc | 82/60/pc | 80/60/pc | 78/51/r |
| San Francisco | 74/56/pc | 75/58/pc | 73/57/s | 72/57/pc | 71/55/s |
| Seattle | 77/58/s | 78/58/pc | 76/56/pc | 73/57/pc | 71/48/r |
| Tucson | 93/72/s | 97/72/s | 97/72/s | 95/73/t | 95/73/t |
| Washington, DC | 90/74/t | 90/74/t | 88/66/t | 82/64/pc | 84/67/r |

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

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