



NEWSBRIEFS

Flu tracking

Gov. Rick Perry has asked the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) to develop and implement a surveillance monitoring system for the influenza virus in Texas. The system will allow the agency to act quickly in the event of an outbreak. "I want to make sure that Texas is adequately prepared to deal with any consequences of the national vaccine shortage," Perry said. The influenza surveillance system will include the establishment of 100 to 200 geographically dispersed reporting sites to ensure that the state closely monitors cases of influenza and can quickly identify an epidemic, should one occur. Regional and local health departments will choose sites and recruit health care providers from both large and small communities. The sites will report all cases of influenza or influenza-like symptoms on a weekly basis to TDSHS to monitor for any unusual developments. TDSHS has established a vaccine clearinghouse to match providers with surplus vaccine with providers who need vaccine and also help guarantee distribution of vaccine to those Texans who need it most.

Bands finish first

Socorro ISD's Montwood, Americas and El Dorado high school marching bands earned first division ratings during the Region 22 University Interscholastic League Marching Contest October 16 at the SISD Student Activities Complex on Joe Battle Boulevard. Other first division ratings on a scale of one to five included Address, Bel Air, Coronado, Del Valle, Eastwood, Fabens, Franklin, J.M. Hanks, Mountain View, Parkland, and Riverside high schools. Second division ratings went to Anthony, Canutillo, Clint, El Paso, Horizon Mid/High, San Elizario, Socorro and Ysleta high schools. Third division rank went to Van Horn High School.

In other news

■ The Clint High School golf team has been awarded a \$500 grant from ExxonMobil Educational Alliance and due to the efforts of Jim Whitlatch, distributor of Chido, Inc. of ExxonMobil at 11880 Alameda. The grant funds will be used to purchase golf equipment and uniforms for the team coached by David Moore. "We are pleased with the grant as it will help us in areas where we need the most financial assistance," said Moore. "This educational grant will enable us to address equipment needs as well as assist in providing uniform shirts for the team."

■ Two community meetings are to be hosted by SISD Superintendent Dr. Robert J. Durón. Durón will discuss the

See BRIEFS, Page 5

Education is knowing what you want, knowing where to get it, and knowing what to do with it after you get it.

— Quips & Quotes

Safety stressed for Halloween

Chief's advice good for all of El Paso County

By Chief Tony Aguilar
Special to the Courier

It's that time of the year again for witches and goblins, of all ages to be knocking on your door for treats. This year, as we have done in the past, the Horizon City Police Department will be out in force, in patrol vehicles, bikes, and on foot, on Halloween night, Sunday, October 31, 2004 to provide additional safety and security to the large crowds of children and parents walking our streets at night. Thanks to a COPS Overtime grant from the Department of Justice, additional officers will be utilized for this safety operation.

Besides the common sense safety precautions that all parents should be well aware of such as carrying a flashlight, wearing reflective costumes, and checking all treats carefully before allowing the children to eat them, the Horizon City Police Department is encouraging everybody to be especially alert for the following suspicious activities and report them immediately to 546-2280 or 911 if it's an emer-



LET'S BE CAREFUL OUT THERE — Horizon's Chief Tony Aguilar urges common sense and safety for all trick or treaters.

gency:

- Reckless drivers or obviously intoxicated persons;
- Any traffic accident resulting in injuries;
- Any individual that is carrying or discharging any type of firearm whether on foot or from a vehicle;

- Any person that is using illegal narcotics or attempting to sell narcotics to children;
- Any person that is bullying or attempting to take treats away from children;
- Any potential terrorist activity such as suspicious packages left unattended or abandoned;
- Any person carrying or attempting to ignite explosives (including fireworks which are illegal inside the city limits).

The Horizon City Police Department will be passing out reflective glowing bracelets to children and adults to wear them while they are out trick or treating and walking the dark streets in Horizon City.

The glowing bracelets enhance the safety and visibility of the children wearing them and

See SAFETY, Page 4

Students gather from around the county for leadership training program

By Phillip Cortez
Special to the Courier

Almost 500 students representing the El Paso, Ysleta, Socorro and San Elizario Independent School Districts gathered at San Elizario High School for the District 1 SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference, Saturday, October 23, 2004.

"You are the future of tomorrow," said Suky Ramos Eagle Feather to a packed auditorium of students. Ramos is an assistant to State Senator Eliot Shapleigh and was a keynote speaker during the event.

SkillsUSA is a national organization serving more than 264,000 high school and college students and professional members who are enrolled in training programs in technical, skilled, and service occupations, including health occupations, according to Rafael Cardoza, District Director for District 1, which covers all of El Paso County. San Elizario High School will host the next two conferences.

Students taking part in the District 1 SkillsUSA program excel in the major categories: Building Trades, Graphic Design, Cosmetology, Auto Mechanics, and the Cisco Systems technology training, Health Occupations

Students of America (HOSA).

"There are so many options for these kids," Cardoza said. "SkillsUSA helps them develop leadership skills, self esteem, and a sense of belonging to something."

SkillsUSA prepares America's high performance workers. It provides quality education experiences for students in leadership, teamwork, citizenship and character development. It builds and reinforces self-confidence, work attitudes and communications skills. It emphasizes total quality at work, high ethical standards, superior work skills, life-long education and pride in the dignity of work. SkillsUSA also promotes understanding of the free enterprise system and involvement in community service activities.

"It's really helped me become involved in my community," said San Elizario High School senior Daisy Rincón, who serves as the District 1 Vice President. "It's helped me prepare and understand what it's like to work with different types of people and

communicate with them." Rincón also credits the national program with helping her self esteem, saying that even though she is naturally shy, getting rid of self doubt will play a vital role in her success as she enters the world of work and college.



VP SAYS PROGRAM IS OK — Daisy Rincón credits the SkillsUSA program with improvements in her life.

Jose H. Damian Elementary School among best in Texas

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

Jose H. Damian Elementary School, in the Canutillo Independent School District, was notified recently that it was named for the third consecutive year to the Honor Roll for 2004 by Just for the Kids (JFTK) and the Texas Business and Education Coalition (TBEC). Only 70 elementary schools in Texas made the JFTK Honor Roll this year.

According to TBEC officials, The Honor Roll award is the most prestigious award for sustained, academic excellence in Texas. The Honor Roll schools are the most consistent performers in educating all student groups over a three-year period and rank highest in their individual peer groups across the state.

Damian ES earned this award through hard work and student achievement, because there is no application process for the award.

"Going back to 1997 when I became principal, the campus personnel made a commitment to become a quality school, and each year since then, we have set campus, individual, and grade level goals. We are now, as evident by these awards, reaping the fruits of our labor," said Max Padilla, Damian ES principal.

The seventy elementary schools have been invited to send delegates to a "Share the Success" seminar and awards presentation, during a special reception scheduled for December 9, in Austin.

Eight Socorro schools ranked as 'Recognized'

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Eight Socorro ISD schools met the requirements for "Recognized" school status, according to the latest accountability rankings from the Texas Education Agency.

"All of our campuses have improved," said SISD Superintendent Dr. Robert J. Duron. "These ratings are an indication that our schools are headed in the right direction. It's a real credit to the faculty and leadership at each campus."

Twenty-four schools earned an "Acceptable" rating, as did the District as a whole.

The results, released Sept. 30, showed the following campuses are considered "Recognized" by the state.

- Salvador H. Sanchez Middle School
- William D. Slider Middle School
- O'Shea Keleher Elementary School
- Horizon Heights Elementary School
- Vista del Sol Elementary School
- Benito Martinez Elementary School
- Lujan-Chavez Elementary School

See SISD, Page 3

View from here By Michael Quinn Sullivan

Elections are important, but life goes on — really

In the final throes of an election, cries of despair and gloom fill the airwaves as politicians plying for final votes paint increasingly horrific scenes of life without them.

It's impossible, from Labor Day to Election Day in even-numbered years, to watch television, listen to the radio or read the newspaper without being pummeled by an ad, article or talking head urging us to protect the future from the other guy.

If we elect the "wrong" candidates, we are told... Newly uninsured kids will do drugs while moms left unemployed by outsourcing collect welfare as the deadbeat dads bet on the pony races funding schools while the roads deteriorate in the face of global warming, forcing criminals to run amok under the threat of an economy slamming into a wall of asbestos.

Oh, please. The sun will rise. Children will laugh and play. Young lovers will take autumn strolls. New technologies will amaze us. Fortunes will be made. All, generally, with very little help from politicians and their sycophants.

Elections are, of course, quite important. Politicians produce public policy after their own kind: good ones produce good policy, bad produce bad. In the great American experiment, farmers and scholars, executives and laborers, are called upon to separate the political goats and sheep.

The smallest fraction of the population might possibly remember the name of a single state legislator and federal representative who served in 1903. A majority would be hard-pressed to recall who was president or governor in 1904. But all of us know the legacy of two brothers named Orville and Wilbur, and their activities in those years on a stretch of beach known as Kitty Hawk.

Within seven years of the Wright brothers' historic flight, the first reported private air-freight shipment took place — a bolt of silk was flown at the request of a department store from Dayton to Columbus, Ohio, to serve the needs of a customer.

The freedom of the marketplace, not a government program or a politician's promise, created the marvel of air travel.

Similarly, practical history will likely judge the most important event of 2004 to be not an election, but the small group of inventors working with a budget smaller than the rounding errors used by NASA who put a man in space twice in two weeks, in the same craft. A feat not matched by any government.

Driven by the creative forces of the free market, teams around the world competed for a \$10 million privately-funded prize — and a slice of history.

For most of us, the political process is background noise in the business of life.

And that is exactly how it should be. A well-designed concert hall eliminates background noise for a singular purpose: to allow maximum enjoyment of the minute details of a symphony.

The policies we pursue, and therefore the politicians we elect, should be for a similar purpose. The awesome orchestrations that burst forth from a free market occur only in the absence of oppression. The most striking advances in art, science and industry have occurred not in the government labs of totalitarian regimes, but in the bustle of the free market.

Freedom allows individuals to succeed and fail, to explore their creativity and test their boundaries. A recent

See ELECTIONS, Page 4



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes



Veteran's concerns to be addressed at sixth annual town hall meeting

Veterans' healthcare, next year's Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) budget, and expansions at the William Beaumont Army Medical Center and the El Paso Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Care Center will be among the main topics of my sixth annual Veterans Town Hall. This year's town hall will air on Time Warner cable channel 7 on November 6th and 7th.

This year's featured guest is Mr. Frederico Juarbe, Jr., the U.S. Department of Labor Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment and Training. Mr. Juarbe's role assisting soldiers returning from Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere as they re-start their lives in the United States as civilians is extremely timely as military operations continue overseas. The U.S. Department of Labor's recent \$970,000 grant to the Upper Rio Grande Workforce Development Board to create jobs for soldiers and the families of soldiers who are returning from Iraq and Afghanistan underscores their commitment to help these families re-start their lives after such hardship.

I was angered to learn that wounded soldiers returning from Iraq were struggling to work with Pentagon bureaucracy and have contacted Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld demanding that these veterans, who have been wounded in defense of our nation, receive the treatment and care they have earned and deserve. It is refreshing to know that individuals such as Mr. Juarbe are working hard to anticipate the needs of the soldiers who will be returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Other panelists include local Department of Veterans Affairs officials, the directors of William Beaumont Army Medical Center and the El Paso VA Health Care Center and Ron Holmes and John McKinney, the co-chairs of my Veterans Citizen Advisory Panel.

Veterans will be heartened to know that, after a long fight by my colleagues and I on Capitol Hill, this year's Defense Authorization bill addresses the unfair reduction in retirement benefits military spouses have endured through the Survivor Benefit Plan. The bill will phase out the current 20-percent reduction in benefits spouses must deal with once they reach 62 years of age. Military

spouses play an important role in the defense of our country, and I am pleased to say they will now receive the benefits they have earned and deserve.

While we can consider the Survivor Benefit Plan a victory, there is still much work to be done, such as the Disabled Veterans Tax. The fiscal year 2005 Defense Authorization bill authorizes full concurrent receipt for 100-percent disabled veterans, beginning in January 2005; however, every eligible veteran deserves the concurrent receipt of their disability pay and retirement benefits.

These issues will surely be topics of conversation at our town hall and I look forward to gaining the insight of both our local and federal experts. In the past, these town halls have provided a forum in which to exchange concerns and possible solutions regarding the Department of Veterans Affairs and its program and budget. I have always appreciated the active participation of El Paso's veterans and once again invite you to send me your questions. Please contact me through the "Voice your Opinion" section on my website at www.house.gov/reyes or call my office at 534-4400.

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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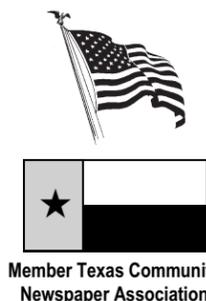
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WHY TERRORISTS DON'T DEBATE



CHINA WORLD HERALD KOERBER

BASEBALL RETURNS TO MUDVILLE

Get out and vote

Next Tuesday people everywhere will have the opportunity to make history by doing one very simple thing: voting.

The 2004 presidential election may be one of the closest in history, which is an even greater reason to exercise the right that our ancestors fought so hard to deliver.

Did you know that after the 2000 presidential election CNN reported that only 51 percent of potential voters exercised their right to vote? When you compare that statistic to other democratic nations we rank near the bottom for voter participation.

We could learn a very valuable lesson from the newly democratic nation of Afghanistan. In October of this month there were lines of people that circled city blocks. What were these people waiting to do? Vote. The people of Afghanistan have gone through great struggles to earn their right to a free election and they're tak-

ing full advantage of this opportunity. America has also gone through great struggles to earn the right to



By U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla

Eye on D.C.

vote. That's exactly what our nation is about: Democracy and our right to vote. The right to vote is our guarantee that we will remain a democracy and continue to enjoy the freedoms that are the basis of

America. Freedoms including speech and religion are ultimately guaranteed by the right to vote.

With today's political, economic and social climate, now is the time for each of us to make our voice heard. In a world where most people are content to remain silent, even the smallest of voices can become a loud cry. The 2000 elections proved this: every vote counts. That's why I'm reminding everyone today to take advantage of that right and get to the polls on Tuesday. Every vote makes a difference.

SISD

From Page 1

•Elfida P. Chavez Elementary School Socorro's alternative schools, KEYS Academy and KEYS Elementary, were not rated.

The rating is based on three criteria: a 70 percent passing standard for each test in Reading/English Language Skills, Writing, Social Studies, Mathematics and Science; a dropout rate of 0.7 percent or less and a 70 percent passing standard on the Student Developed Alternative Assessment, or SDAA exam given to Special Education students.

Antonio Baca, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, says even though the requirements are uniform, the needs and ways of reaching the

requirements are different for each campus. "All of our schools are very, very focused on the tests. But it would be impossible to say what works for Elfida Chavez, for example, would work as well for another campus. There were a lot of schools that were right on the cusp of being 'Recognized.'"

Dr. Duron agrees, adding, "Many of our schools narrowly missed the 'Recognized' rating in areas which they have already targeted for improvement this year."

Baca says the District continues to align the curriculum, called the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, or TEKS with the questions on the TAKS. "As far as preparing for the tests specifically, that's the charge of the campuses," says Baca, "but parents need to continue to support and motivate their students."

Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla



Residents of El Paso County need to exercise precious voting obligation

Hola, mi gente — this is your friend and public servant reminding you that a very vital challenge awaits all of us this coming Nov. 2, 2004. I'm speaking, of course, of Election Day. If you voted early, then this message is not so much for you, as it is for those people who haven't voted yet. If, on the other hand you have already voted, then it's your duty and responsibility to help others in your sphere of influence to go out and vote. This election promises to be one of the most contentious in recent history.

However you decide to vote — whether you're for the Democrats or the Republicans — nothing will get done unless you take the time and the responsibility to vote for your favorite politician. I was fortunate in this election, because I didn't have an opponent. But, that won't excuse you from voting for me, even if I don't have an opponent. The important thing here is that we need for every eligible voter to cast his or her ballot.

For too many years now, our biggest population group — namely, Mexican Americans — has been remiss in exercising this most impor-

tant and vital right. Whether to vote or not should never be an issue, but, unfortunately, too many of our eligible voters opt to not practice what they preach. How grand it would be if everybody in El Paso voted for the candidate of their choice.

I'm not going to encourage you to vote for either the Democrats or the Republicans — you all know where you stand, and you must know in which direction you want our country to go. Do we continue with President Bush's so-called "conservative compassion" or should we go with a totally new candidate — Sen. John Kerry, who has designed some great plans for our future.

The choice is entirely up to you. An educated electorate is an informed electorate. So, if you don't know too much about either Bush or Kerry, it's up to you to inform yourselves. The media is doing everything it can to keep you excited and involved in this year's race — especially because it's a presidential year.

But, nothing good will come out of it if more people decide that they're not going to vote. It's time that we El Pasoans become part of the electoral system. We've got the huge numbers of people who are al-

ready registered to vote — over 300,000 potential voters. But, what good will that do if people don't exercise that privilege.

One thing that every voter must realize is that politicians, whether local, state or national are very impressed with numbers. Hispanics continue to hear that they are the future of U.S. politics, yet getting them to the voting booth is very difficult. While our efforts should be on registering more and more people to vote, we should also make sure that those who are registered go out on election day to cast their ballots.

Hispanics in El Paso County outnumber by far people from other ethnic groups — Hispanics are now the largest minority group in the nation — but, that will come to naught if they don't take their responsibility seriously. How will we ever come to be courted by politicians throughout the state and the nation, if they know that we don't vote even if we are the largest minority group.

So, please — if you do nothing else on Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2004, make sure that you go to your voting precinct and cast your vote. And, yes, you can even vote for me even if I have no opponent. Everybody needs to vote, so

TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, Oct. 31, 1949, WBAP presents the first T.V. weather reporting program.



ROBERT MOORE

that we can show politicians in Austin and in Washington that we are no longer going to stand on the sidelines. We are, instead, going to be very well

represented in the voting booth and we will have our say on election day. Until then, I remain your friend and public servant — Chente for la gente.

STRONG EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP!

— RE-ELECT —

IRMA S. SANCHEZ for Mayor of Socorro

Vote early at Socorro High School
or other county locations.

PUNCH
73

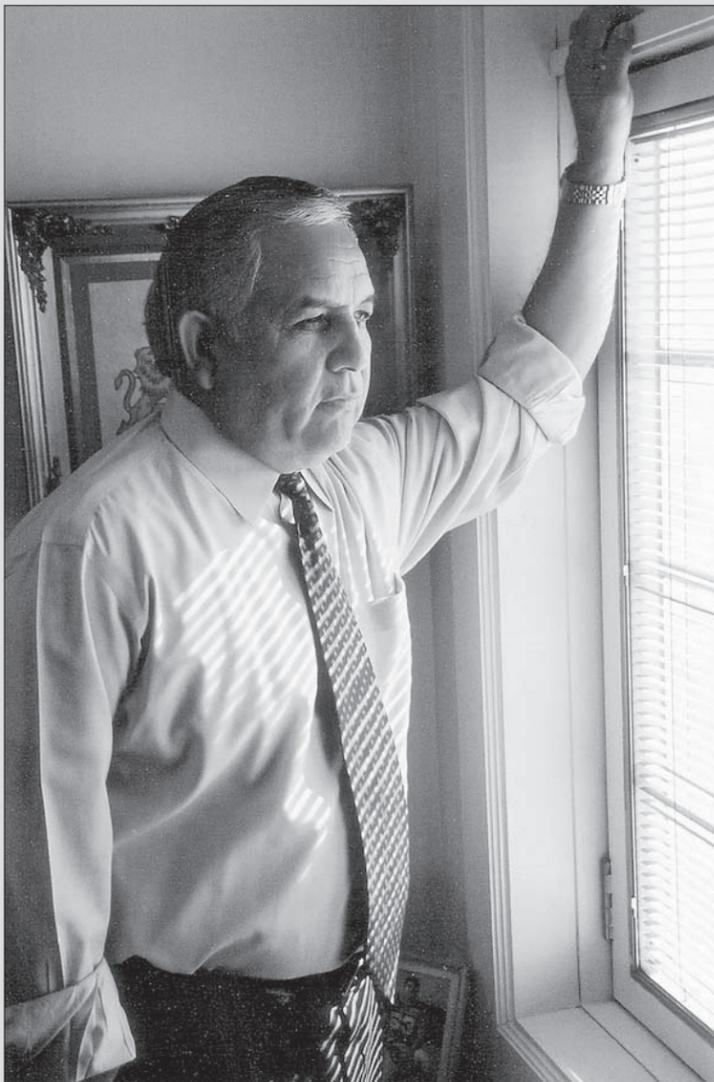


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KEEP: Respect... Experience... Leadership

RE-ELECT Congressman Silvestre REYES

For Congressman, from the 16TH District



... NOW, more than ever!

Paid for by Committee to Re-elect Reyes, 1011 Montana Ave., Ron Pate, Treasurer

Safety

From Page 1

can be seen from a distance while children are hurriedly crossing the streets in front of traffic. The bracelets are donated yearly by Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie L. Joseph, Ph. D., who also live in Horizon City. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph have donated thousands of bracelets during the past three years specifically for the safety of our children during Halloween night. The bracelets will also be distributed to the local child care centers to be given to the children and parents to wear them during Halloween night.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

- Carry a flashlight
- Walk, don't run.
- Stay on sidewalks.
- If no sidewalk is available, walk on the left side of the road facing traffic.
- Obey traffic signals.
- Stay in a group and in familiar neighborhoods.
- Plan your route and don't cut across yards or driveways.
- Wear a watch you can read in the dark.
- Make sure costumes don't drag on the ground.
- Shoes should fit (even if they don't go with your costume).
- Avoid wearing masks while walking from house to house.
- Carry only safe rounded toy knives, swords or other props.
- Wear fire proof clothing with reflective markings or tape.
- Wear reflective items such as glowing bracelets for additional safety.
- Approach only houses that have lights on.
- Stay away from and don't pet animals you don't know.
- Have an adult inspect your treats before eating.
- Wash all fresh fruit, inspect for holes and cut it open before allowing children to eat it.
- Plan a return time and don't walk back home alone.

Elections

From Page 2

issue of Forbes magazine profiled 26-year-old engineer Simon Luk, a first-generation American. His story is compelling because he is heading a company earning less than \$1 million in sales right now, but is poised to challenge computer industry giants like Cisco and Lucent. Maybe he will wildly fail. But he might just amazingly succeed.

Economic liberty, not political promises and government largesse, makes the dream possible.

The election of 2004 will be soon behind us. But as long as liberty remains our cultural imperative, we will see on the Wednesday after Election Day what we will see tomorrow: a glorious sunrise on the unlimited potential of a new day.

Michael Quinn Sullivan is the vice president of the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a non-partisan research institution based in Austin.

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Tornillo Elementary soars to "Exemplary" rating

By Rudy Barreda
Special to the Courier

Tornillo Elementary School is one of just three schools in Region 19 to

be rated "Exemplary" by the Texas Education Agency. Tornillo Elementary is the only public school accepting any student living in their attendance area to achieve the Exemplary rating. This turnaround is tremendous

considering that Tornillo Elementary was rated "Low Performing" by the TEA just three years ago.

The ratings, which were released by the Agency on September 30, also indicate Tornillo Intermediate, Tornillo Junior High and Tornillo High School are all rated "Academically Acceptable."

Silva Magnet School and Burnham Charter School were the other two schools in the Region 19 area rated "Exemplary". Silva Magnet is a high school where students must apply and be accepted to enroll. Burnham Charter School is a private school, meaning parents must pay tuition in order for their children to attend the school.

Tornillo Elementary Principal Severo Alcoset attributes much of the school's turnaround to the commitment the faculty and staff have to work together to ensure every student's success. Additionally, the parents, the community of Tornillo, and the district's Board of Trustees all contributed to the effort.

Tornillo Elementary teachers do many things to improve the academic performance of the students. They



TISD Board Members present TES Principal with TEA Exemplary Award. From left: Ofelia Bosquez, Carol Escarciga, Letty Trejo, Hector Luna, Principal Severo Alcoset, Joe Tittle and Bertha Brew.

share effective teaching strategies with each other. They provide field trips and science and social studies assemblies to expose the students to things that they might read about on the TAKS Test. They make sure students who need extra help receive tutoring. Most importantly, the fac-

ulty and staff hold high expectations of their students; they know the kids can do well academically, so they expect them to do so.

With the continued assistance from all stakeholders, Alcoset hopes the school will continue to be "Exemplary" for many to come.

Briefs

From Page 1

District's test scores from the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, or TAKS exam, and the progress of the building program as funded by the 2004 bond election. The program, open to the public, begin at 6 p.m., and are scheduled for: Nov. 3 in the El Dorado High School Band Room, 12401 Edgemere Boulevard and Nov. 4 in the Socorro High School Band Room, 10150 Alameda Avenue.

■ The "Halloween Hip-Hop Workshop" will be held on Saturday, Oct. 30 from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The dance-move event will be taught by Hollywood insider Robert Jaquez. Jaquez has worked with groups that include N'Sync, LFO and the Backstreet Boys as well as producing shows for Disney. The event is being sponsored by the Academy for the Performing Arts. Information: 565-6900. Cost: \$10. Other classes are also being formed and will feature Jaquez.

■ SISD's O'Shea Keleher Elementary School, 1800 Leroy Bonse Drive, is sponsoring its annual Harvest Festival October 29, starting at 4 p.m. and continuing through 9 p.m. Food, games and fun are part of the program, along with activity booths and prizes, plus a costume contest, a haunted house and a cake walk. Admission tickets can be purchased at the school during this week and are priced four tickets/\$1. For more information, call the school, 937-7200.

■ The El Paso Jewish Academy, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and the American Medical Association are sponsoring a lecture titled *Nazi Medicine: Context and Lessons*, featuring Patricia Heberer, PhD., historian with the Center for Advanced Studies at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. and Alan L. Wells, PhD., MPH, Senior Research Associate with the Institute of Ethics for the AMA. The event, at One Helen of Troy Plaza on Thursday, Nov. 4, will begin at 6:30 p.m. Call 833-0808 or 494-9697 for reservations and information.

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF ANTHONY

TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Town of Anthony is giving notice of its intent to submit an application for a grant in the amount of \$266,596 from the Community Development Fund of the FY 2005/2006 Texas Community Development Program. The application requests a grant which will be used to develop a neighborhood facility in the community. The application is available for review at Town Hall during regular business hours.

Art Franco
Mayor

Date Published
October 28, 2004

Public Notice Town of Clint

TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Town of Clint is giving notice of its intent to submit an application for a grant in the amount of \$266,596 from the Community Development Fund of the FY 2005/2006 Texas Community Development Program. The application requests a grant which will be used to implement water system improvements at several locations throughout the community. The application is available for review at Town Hall during regular business hours.

Dale Reinhart
Mayor

Date Published
October 28, 2004



How Actions Speak Louder Than Promises.

Over the years you have come to know and trust me.

It can take a long time for that kind of relationship to develop, and only after you spend a lot of time together. I know the needs of South Texas because I know you. And I want to continue serving you here in the 23rd Congressional District.

My record for the last 12 years speaks more clearly than any promise I can offer. A record that supports families, small businesses, seniors, taxpayers, the military and the security of our country.

During my next term, I will continue to focus on these issues:

- Abolish the federal income tax code
- Adopt a fairer, simpler tax system
- Permanently kill the Death Tax
- Allow self-employed workers to deduct health insurance expenses
- Ease tax and regulatory burdens on small businesses

And, as the Agriculture Appropriations Chairman, I will make sure rural interests are protected at all costs.

Beyond our issues at home, my priority is to support President Bush in America's war on terror. He is a principled man who is finally standing up to the terrorists who want to destroy our way of life. In fact, destroy us altogether.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I directly affect the funding of our military and intelligence organizations. I will make sure they, and the President, have the resources they need to win.

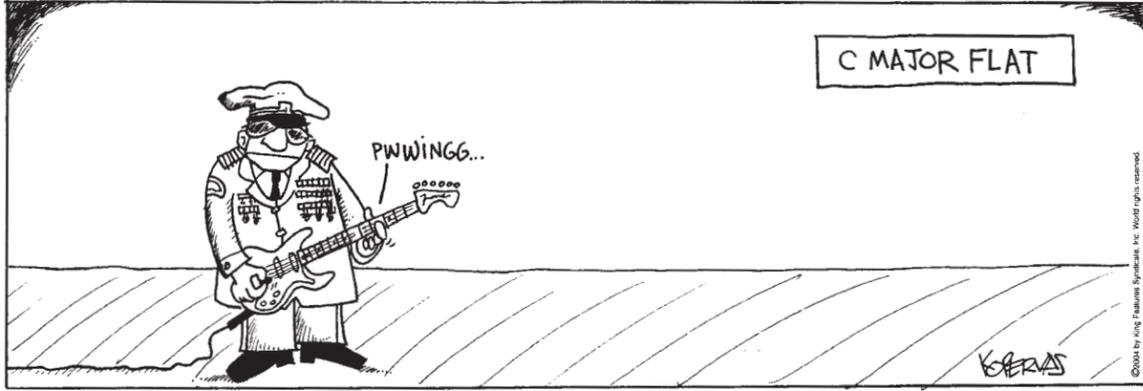
But to do so, I need your support and your vote to continue serving you faithfully and actively in the U.S. Congress.

Thank you.

Henry Bonilla
Member of Congress

Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



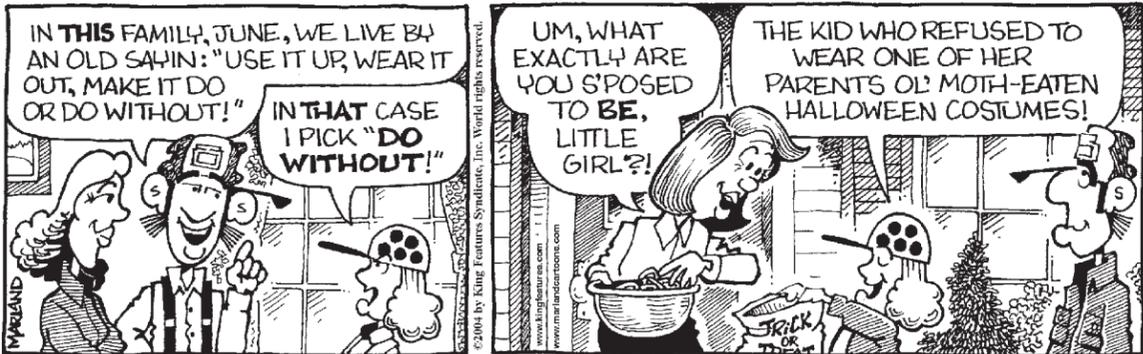
AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Easy come, easy go

By Don Flood

It was a week for hopeful and disturbing headlines.

On the positive side, a CNN.com headline read: "U.S. offers download of new \$50."

Yes, of course! Downloadable money!

Download a fifty and print up whatever you need! It was just the kind of self-help government program I was waiting for.

Yes, it occurred to me that perhaps the administration was going a bit too far in pandering to voters, but what's the point in living in a democracy if you can't be pandered to?

And yes, I was disappointed the government hadn't made it possible to download a greater variety of denominations.

Say your kid needs lunch money. You don't want to send him to school with a fifty.

Next thing you know he'll think money grows on trees.

"That's not how it works, buster! I had to make this money the old-fashioned way — download it and print it up with my own two hands!"

But on the other hand, I had to admit, downloadable money would be even more convenient than the tree-grown variety.

Who wants to go out and pick money off trees when it's raining? Or when it's cold?

No such problem with downloadable money. You'd be able to print money all winter long, while you remain warm and cozy inside with your printer.

Come to think of it, maybe I could afford to be a little generous: "Here's a couple of thousand bucks, get yourself some ice cream."

But then I read the story. This

great new government program wasn't all it was cracked up to be. Instead of being aimed at industrious entrepreneurial types such as myself, it was meant for those doing commercial art projects. Bummer!

The second headline was disturbing from the get-go: "'70s band the Raspberries to reunite."

This has to stop. The Raspberries had exactly one Top 10 song. That was in 1972, back when dinosaurs still roamed the earth.

If they were to put together a greatest hits album, they'd be hard-pressed to fill up both sides of a single.

But here they are, threatening a reunion tour.

It's like those so-called thriller movies. You'll see the villain die, usually in a manner that, in real life, would indicate a high probability of death, such as being fed into a sausage-maker, packaged for delivery and then dumped into a flaming volcano — just before the nuclear bomb drops.

At the very least, you think to yourself, this villain would need to lie down and take a couple of aspirin.

But no, they always come back to life. This, sadly, is what is happening to our '70s bands. They always come back, even when logically they should be dead or appearing in Vegas.

And here's the scary part. According to the story, "General admission will be \$45, while a VIP ticket guaranteeing a seat and a meet-and-greet with the band will run \$100."

A hundred bucks to "meet and greet" the Raspberries? You think I can just print my own money?

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Classified Ads

LEGAL

El Paso County Emergency Services District #1 is requesting sealed bids for the following:

Lots 3 & 4, Block 8, Horizon Hills is offered by El Paso County ESD #1. No offer will be considered less than \$95,000.00. Send sealed bids to: 14151 Nunda, El Paso, Texas 79928, Attention Ron Larson. Bids will not be accepted after 6:00 P.M. on Monday, November 16, 2004. Bids will be opened and read at the Board of Commissioners regular meeting on Thursday, November 18, 2004 at 6:30 P.M. The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. For information call 915/852-3204 and

leave a message.

WTCC:10/28/04

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:

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2004 AT 3:00 P.M.

METROPOLITAN AREA NETWORK UPGRADE CSP NO. 199-1122-0531

DIRECT RAS SERVER MAINTENANCE CSP NO. 199-1122-0539

DIRECT WEB

SERVER MAINTENANCE CSP NO. 199-1122-0540

DIRECT DNS APPLIANCE MAINTENANCE CSP NO. 199-1122-0541

DIRECT DCHP SYSTEM SUPPORT MAINTENANCE CSP NO. 199-1122-0542

DIRECT EMAIL SYSTEM MAINTENANCE CSP NO. 199-1122-0543

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

WTCC:10/28/04

HELP WANTED

AVON Representatives Needed
Multilevel Opportunity/
Training provided
West 731-6373 / East 727-3626
Join Now
11/11

RENTALS

Fairway Townhouse, Horizon City, view 18th hole, Emerald Springs. Two bedroom, two bath, available. 755-1730, 494-3054. TFN

Executive Office Space
available at the **Lakeway Bldg.**
14190 Horizon Blvd.
(915) 852-1019

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

Looking for back issues?
Check the archives at:
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Students give Bush slim victory

By Laura Cade
Special to the Courier

Students at East Montana Middle School in the Clint Independent School District participated in a campus wide presidential mock election on October 19, 2004. In a tight race, George W. Bush was the top vote getter among the students with 46% of the vote while John Kerry received a close 45.4% of the vote. For the remaining 8.6% of the votes, students marked "undecided" or "other" on their ballot.

"I think it's important to vote because we have the freedom to choose who we want to speak for us. I will encourage my parents to vote because with that vote they can make a difference," says 8th grade Class President Nancy Altamira. Prior to voting, students were given lessons on the electoral college system

and the U.S. Constitution. Students learned about the composition of Congress, how the number of a state's electoral votes is determined, and how the system is used to elect the president. Students also made non-vitriolic Presidential election trading cards describing each candidates plan and beliefs. "When asked to give short written responses stating their reasons for preferring a candidate, it was obvious that many students were paying attention to the media, their parents, and probably each other. Many quotes show a great deal of thought and concern," says W. Smathers, 7th grade Social Studies teacher at East Montana Middle. The results of the mock election were submitted to a database at the Office of the Secretary of State and will be posted on their website on the evening of November 2, 2004.

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: I have been working for a school district for 25 years and as I am getting closer to retirement, I want to find out how my retirement from Texas Retirement System is going to impact any benefits I can receive on my husband's record. I understand the loop hole provision recently changed. Where do I stand?

A: Legislation did change the "Last Day of Employment Exemption" from one day to five years. This means that if you are expecting to

receive a pension from Texas Retirement System, two-thirds of that pension will be applied against any spousal benefits paid under social security. Remember the exemption is still there but it now requires that you must be in a position that pays into both Social Security and Texas Retirement System during the last 60 continuous months (5 years) of your career. Legislators incorporated another exemption to the new rule; for those individuals who filed for social security benefits prior to April 1,

2004, they will still be subject to the pre existing rule, that is, they must pay into Social Security and Texas Retirement System on the last day of their careers with the schools but under the new law; they are allowed to work the last day anytime in the future. The new legislation also incorporated another factor which comes into play when we consider the five years; if individual's last day of employment occurs between June 30, 2004 and March 2, 2009, any employment they had in a school district that paid into both Social Security and Texas Retirement System before the date of the new law enact-

ment, will be considered towards the five years as long as they work the last month of their employment careers with one of the dual retirement system school districts.

Q: If I apply for my Social Security retirement benefits online, can I email you a copy of my birth certificate?

A: No. We need to have a certified copy of your birth certificate. (That usually means it has a raised seal on it and the signature of the state or local official who issued the document. However, Social Security is working to develop a process for verifying

birth records electronically with states.) When you apply for benefits online, you will be given several options for where you want your claim processed and how you want to provide us with your birth certificate and any other documents we might need.

For more information visit your local 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
Times of clouds and sun.	Breezy in the evening; otherwise, partly cloudy.	Partly sunny and pleasant; breezy in the afternoon.	Sunshine and patchy clouds.	Sun and a few clouds.	Mostly sunny.	A mix of sunshine and some clouds.	Plenty of sunshine.
▲ 78°	▼ 53°	▲ 71° ▼ 45°	▲ 69° ▼ 46°	▲ 72° ▼ 48°	▲ 70° ▼ 45°	▲ 70° ▼ 46°	▲ 69° ▼ 43°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	5	Moderate
Friday	6	Moderate
Saturday	6	Moderate
Sunday	7	High
Monday	7	High
Tuesday	6	Moderate
Wednesday	7	High

REAL FEEL TEMP®

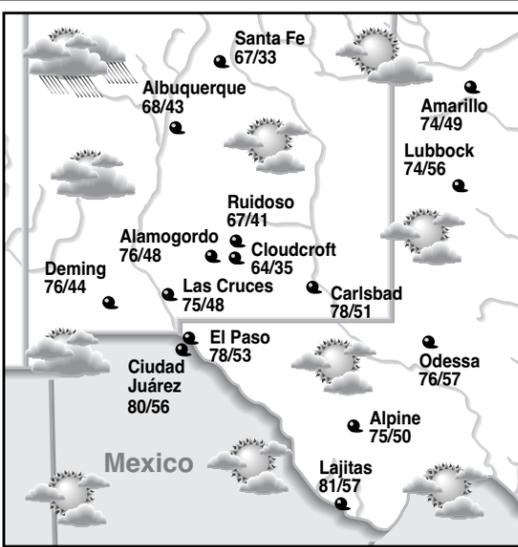
The exclusive AccuWeather composite index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors.

Thursday	79°
Friday	61°
Saturday	58°
Sunday	61°
Monday	63°
Tuesday	63°
Wednesday	66°

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	79	51
Canutillo	79	52
Clint	79	52
E. Montana	79	53
Fabens	79	52
Horizon	81	54
San Elizario	78	50
Socorro	78	51
Tornillo	79	52
Vinton	79	51

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	68/43/sh	60/36/pc	58/38/s	61/39/pc	59/36/s
Atlanta	74/60/sh	74/60/t	78/60/pc	74/58/sh	75/54/t
Atlantic City	57/45/s	65/50/r	70/52/sh	66/47/sh	66/46/s
Austin/San Antonio	87/68/pc	83/62/pc	75/58/t	77/59/r	75/55/r
Baltimore	60/49/pc	66/52/r	72/52/pc	72/43/sh	65/45/c
Boston	54/42/s	54/45/pc	59/47/sh	63/47/pc	59/48/c
Chicago	66/54/pc	74/52/t	66/48/sh	64/48/pc	57/40/r
Dallas/Ft. Worth	85/67/pc	78/58/t	74/55/c	73/55/c	69/50/r
Denver	70/36/pc	54/29/sh	56/32/pc	50/30/sh	52/24/r
Flagstaff	42/22/r	46/22/s	52/26/pc	53/28/pc	48/26/s
Houston	88/72/pc	86/70/pc	82/68/t	80/68/t	78/56/t
Kansas City	75/60/sh	70/49/sh	65/45/s	68/45/pc	61/37/r
Las Vegas	60/46/sh	65/46/s	68/48/s	68/50/pc	68/50/s
Miami	84/70/sh	84/72/pc	84/72/s	86/74/s	86/74/s
Minneapolis	65/56/r	65/40/sh	55/38/sh	53/36/pc	48/29/r
New Orleans	86/67/pc	83/67/s	82/66/t	83/66/t	79/61/t
New York City	56/48/s	57/52/r	68/54/sh	63/52/sh	65/52/pc
Philadelphia	60/49/s	62/54/r	70/54/sh	70/50/pc	66/50/pc
Phoenix	68/53/sh	74/54/s	74/55/s	75/56/s	76/53/s
Portland	56/44/sh	56/44/r	54/42/sh	52/42/sh	54/40/r
San Francisco	62/50/pc	63/52/pc	65/54/pc	66/49/pc	65/47/pc
Seattle	54/44/sh	54/44/r	52/42/sh	50/42/sh	51/38/r
Tucson	72/48/sh	70/47/s	73/49/s	77/50/s	73/51/s
Washington, DC	60/50/pc	68/56/r	74/56/sh	70/51/sh	67/50/c

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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