



NEWSBRIEFS

Pennies for patients

Canutillo Middle School students will sponsor a "Pennies For Patients" campaign to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. CMS students in the Mother-Daughter program will host the fundraising campaign Feb. 28-March 11 according to Gabriela Marquez, CMS Counselor and mother-daughter program advisor. "We are asking district and community residents to help us by donating their pennies," she added. About 20 girls and their mothers participate in CMS's mother-daughter program, designed to offer participants a support network that underscores the benefits of staying in school and completing a college degree. The group participates in a variety of activities throughout the school year including community and school service projects. For more information, call 877-7926.

HOSA competes

Health Occupation Students of America, HOSA, Area IV Competition will be Friday, March 4 through Saturday, March 5 at Bel Air High School. Over 500 students in grades 9-12 from the West Texas area will compete in nursing, physical therapy, emergency medicine, medical assisting, veterinary medicine, sports medicine, medical laboratory, knowledge of medicine, creative problem solving, debate, parliamentary procedure, community awareness, career health display, speaking and writing skills, and artistic ability. All winners will advance to state competition in Dallas in April. For information, contact Ken Collins 937-2185.

In other news

■ El Dorado High School's Aztec Cheering squad earned the meet's championship in the varsity non-mount division, Jan. 29 in Alamogordo, New Mexico. The 9th and 10th grade students, coached by Claudia Ornelas, will now compete in the Universal Cheerleading Association's Regional Meet, scheduled for Feb. 27 in the University of New Mexico's "The Pit" gym in Albuquerque. Ornelas says 28 girls are scheduled to make the trip.

■ The Richard Burges Library, 9600 Dyer, presents a piano recital by UTEP music instructor and renowned pianist Dena K. Jones on Sunday, March 6 at 3 p.m. Jones will be performing the music of Johann Sebastian Bach and Joaquin Rodrigo. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information call 759-2400 or visit www.elpasolibrary.org.

■ Americas High School will host the Sixth Annual National Cheerleading Association and National Dance Alliance competition Feb. 25-26. The public is invited to both the dance events, scheduled

See BRIEFS, Page 5

Some folks commit a crime and go to jail; others commit a crime, write a book, and get rich.

— Quips & Quotes

City of Socorro makes attorney switch, hears input on rezoning

By Arleen Beard
Special to the Courier

SOCORRO — Sometime between the regular City of Socorro council meetings of Feb. 3 and Feb. 17 a special meeting was called to discuss the contract of Socorro City Attorney Chris Borunda. According to Interim City Manager Lilia Ruiz, council voted during that meeting to terminate Borunda's contract.

When asked on what basis the contract was discontinued, Ruiz said the reasons could not be disclosed.

During the regularly scheduled city council meeting on Feb. 17, council appointed Richard Contreras as the Interim City Attorney.

City Representative Mary Perez expressed her concern over the appointment of Contreras because he is the current city attorney for the Town of Clint. Perez said this would violate the City Charter because Clint is within the



Richard Contreras

Extra Territorial Jurisdiction of Socorro.

Contreras assured council he would resign as city attorney for Clint within 90 days. He prefers to leave the Town of Clint with plenty of notice allowing them to seek another city attorney. Council approved the appointment of

Contreras as the interim city attorney with a vote of 3-1 with Councilwoman Perez as the single "no" vote. Councilman Gary Gandara was not in attendance for the meeting.

In other business, one item of interest was the rezoning of a parcel in the 300 Block of Passmore Rd. from agricultural to high density residential by Ayala Family Partnership. There were over 30 concerned citizens who signed up to speak on the issue. There was

both opposition and support for this agenda item — the opinions were fairly even.

After more than an hour of discussion, council elected to table the item to allow further investigation of alternatives.

Mobile unit dispenses healthy smiles in San Elizario

By Phillip Cortez
Special to the Courier

SAN ELIZARIO — Going to the dentist might not rank in a kid's top ten list of cool things to do, but for some Alarcón Elementary students in San Elizario, there's plenty to smile about thanks to the efforts of the El Paso City/County Health Department.

Located just outside the school cafeteria, Dr. Doug Foster, DDS, dental hygienist Daniella Terrazaz, and dental assistants Patricia Romero, and Mayra Valles have checked for cavities, examined x-rays, and have even performed tooth extractions in their mobile dental unit. It's all a part of a national program called "Give Kids a Smile," according to Foster.

"We're giving free sealants all month long," he said.

Alarcón Elementary is currently one of two schools in El Paso County that have been able to take part in the program, according to Foster, but in March, Borrego Elementary students will be able to get their free sealants, too. As a public health dentist, Foster sees the need to go out into the rural communities where dental care is not readily available. In fact, a lack of health providers in the area is one of the obstacles Foster has seen in the last year and a half that he's worked for the Health Department. Other obstacles that Foster identifies are the high level of low-income kids that are not insured, partly because of funding shortages in the Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP).

Not only does the mobile dental unit give more children access to

dental care, it helps their parents, as well.

"This frees up the parents from having to take time off work for an appointment," he said. "If follow-up work is needed we can take care of it here, too."

Working in a mobile unit certainly has its challenges, according to Foster, including the wait for water lines to thaw out in the morning, when earlier in the month temperatures hovered at 28 degrees.

"We wouldn't be doing this if it wasn't worthwhile," Foster said.



A SMILE A MINUTE — Dr. Doug Foster, along with Patricia Romero and Mayra Valles, have helped put a smile on children's faces at Alarcón Elementary School.

Meeting between Anthony's school and town officials results in joint objectives

By Don Woodyard
Courier Staff Writer

ANTHONY — With pledges of mutual support and working together to benefit the community, the two primary governing bodies of Anthony met Feb. 12.

The board of trustees of the Anthony Independent School District met with the Anthony Town Council on a gloomy and rainy Saturday morning in the Town Hall to discuss a brighter future for the Upper Valley community.

"The most important thing is that we have the same vision for Anthony," said Vern Butler, superintendent of the Anthony ISD, after the meeting. "... of seeing the town and the school district moving forward together. We are on the same page."

Mayor Art Franco shared similar views with Butler. Franco emphasized cooperation between the town and the school district — of working together and cooperating together to benefit the town and the school.

"I see a big growth," the mayor said. "We need to plan for the future."

Both leaders agreed that there is strength in numbers and that the two entities would benefit from a united effort.

Areas of joint effort were discussed.

Highlights:

- Franco suggested the possibility of the two governing bodies could save money by purchasing certain items jointly. Butler agreed that it is a course of action that could be explored.

- Butler pointed out that a "strand" of senior projects for Anthony High students could include working for the benefit of the community.

- Police Chief Ed Miranda said he and other officers had noticed last year that the football field was not well marked. He and officers Frank del Toro and Ricardo Santos, along with Anthony Community Crime Stoppers, are seeking contributions from townspeople to buy chalk for lining the field and pylons to mark the end zone. Del Toro said they were also building a ticket booth for the football field. The officers will be lining the field this fall. "We want to get involved with the school," he said.

- Miranda said he is also working to establish a SRO, School Resource Officer, in the high school. He mentioned the possibility of splitting the cost of the SRO between the town and the school district.

- Franco mentioned the 250-home Las Torres housing development across I-10, facing the Flying J operation.

- Against the background of New Mexico expanding I-10 from Anthony to Las Cruces, the mayor said he sees the prospect of new businesses coming into the area with the expansion of housing. Commercial development he sees continuing along the south side of Wildcat Drive with residential growth on

See ANTHONY, Page 4



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Moldering bones

If your friends, colleagues and the public at large thought highly enough of you and your lifetime achievements to name a city or even a whole state in your honor, isn't that something you would like to know while you were still living?

On the other hand, if they didn't like you much and were going to publish degrading stuff about you in the media and, worse yet, in books that posterity would read, that's probably something you would just as soon *not* know about.

Even more unsettling, if you're into this legacy thing, is that the way people remember your contribution to society is going to change — over and over — as often as the months roll into years that roll into centuries.

I was thinking about it this week, since we were celebrating President's Day, a federal holiday noting, in combination, the births of President George Washington and President Abraham Lincoln.

There was a front-page headline in the local paper about a couple of polls that asked some Americans who they ranked as our greatest presidents. I don't put much stock in polls when it comes down to actual fact, but these were an interesting gauge of how our populace looks at the men who have

to wielded the helm of national power.

A poll by the Washington College for President's Day asked 800 adults who they ranked highest. The ranking was Abraham Lincoln, Ronald Reagan and Franklin D. Roosevelt. A second poll of 1,008 adults, conducted by CNN-USA Today-Gallup, listed Reagan, Bill Clinton and Abraham Lincoln in the 1-2-3 spots.

In other words, we haven't got a clue. Americans are as fickle, confused and divided about who we admire as we are about a jillion other issues.

Most telling in the results of the college poll was how little people know about past presidents. This phenomenon was deftly explained by an expert in civic education, who said the push to teach math and reading in the schools has diminished the amount of time spent on social studies.

That's probably true, and the subjects which our modern educational system prioritizes for these diminished social studies tend to focus not on factual history but on an odd mix of social philosophy.

My four-year-old grandson, in a local headstart program, brought home a colored picture of Martin Luther King Jr. in January, just prior to being given a day off from school in the civil rights activist's honor. He went to school on President's Day, but brought home no picture of George Washington — nor Abe Lincoln, for that matter.

Anyone who can actually recite an anecdote about George Washington will probably tell about the cherry tree-chopping incident and his unwillingness to lie. Washington was an extraordinary man, endowed with a force of character that probably made him the single most essential element in the actual survival of our nation in its infancy, yet numerous reputable historians say there is no credible evidence the cherry tree incident ever

occurred. I'm sure that Martin Luther King Jr. might also have some difficulty recognizing the watered-down, codified, pre-packaged and PC'd version of his own ideology.

We'd rather re-create history in our image than learn the actual lessons of it.

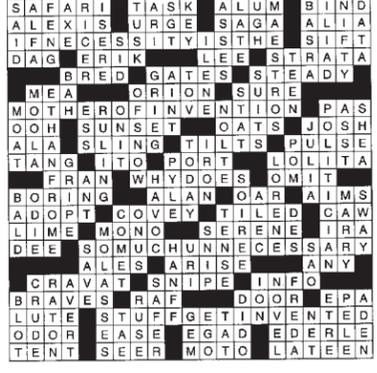
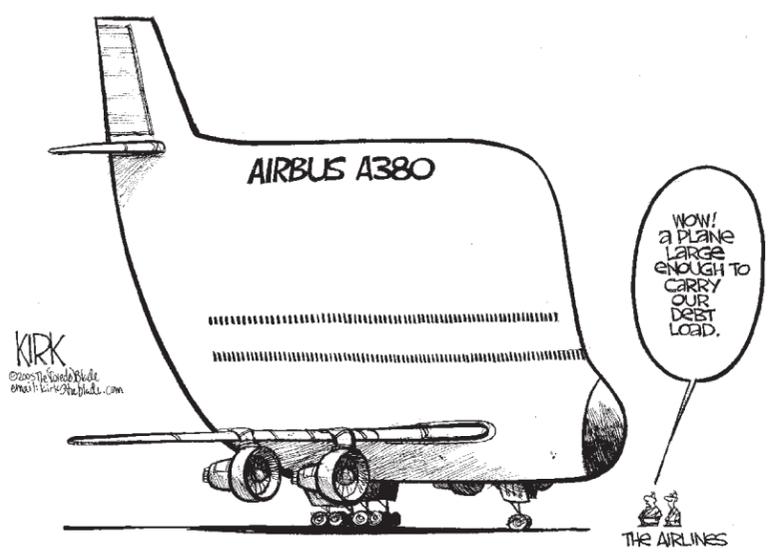
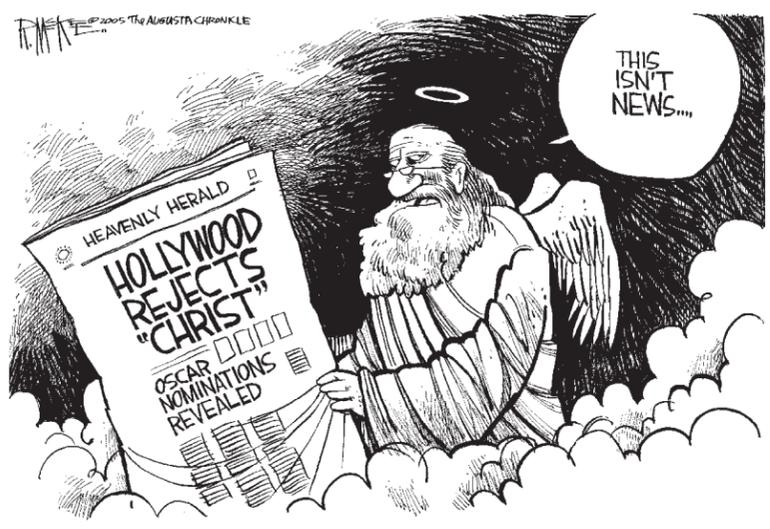
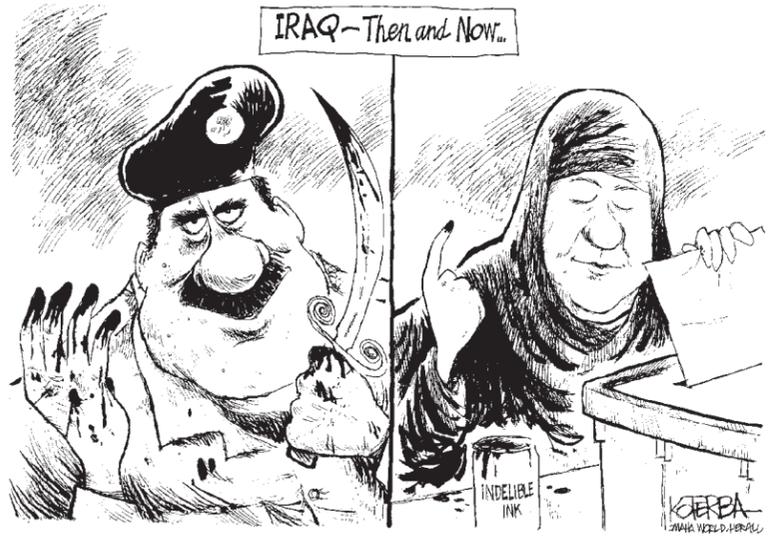
A person's place in history at any given time is directly related to how much and what kind of information is disseminated at the time. National figures can be icon-ized, vilified, deified or ostracized depending on how they are presented in the history book — or not presented at all — with hardly a nod to the truth.

Like it or not, the substance of modern social studies is being constantly diluted and deluded by the ever-changing fluctuation of public opinion, forever at the mercy of the nameless, faceless spin machine whirring constantly in the background, for which no human being is held accountable.

Washington's writings reveal that he was highly conscious of the enormous impact he would have on history, and was concerned about how his decisions would affect, and be interpreted by, future generations. He wasn't the last to suffer with legacy-itis — witness the proliferation of presidential libraries in recent years. Living presidents have created entire showcases of their administrations — personal interpretations of their contributions. The use of consultants and spin-doctors made headlines as President Bill Clinton sought to staunch the blood-letting from his legacy wounds.

Washington, a giant of a historical figure, is ranked barely among the top ten in 2005, while Clinton, who had no compulsion about lying to Congress, beat out both Washington and Lincoln in one poll.

You never know how the next month, year or century will interpret a presidential legacy — except one thing is for certain. Even as the spin machine whirs on and human monuments are built and crumble, their moldering bones simply won't care.



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Por la Gente By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

True equity is clarion call of education funding reform

Hola, mi gente — The effort to finance Texas public schools continues to dominate our legislative agenda. We must work together in a bi-partisan way with the House Public Education Committee to ensure that we achieve true equity.

True equity means that every school — whether in a property-rich district or in a property-poor district — will receive an equitable share of funding. It means that every student in Texas will have the necessary tools to further his or her education.

Although House Bill 2 purports to do exactly that, it doesn't quite satisfy the need. You see, in the past, there wasn't much of a push to make schools equal. In fact, too many students — especially Hispanics and blacks — were shortchanged simply because they lived on the wrong side of the tracks. Texas schools were anything but equal — separate, yes. Equal, no.

How can we tell Texas children that they can't have a computer to use in class, or they can't have the proper

textbooks, or that they can't have the most highly educated instructors simply because they don't live in the right zip code. House Bill 2 won't alleviate this situation.

On the contrary, the ones who will benefit the most under HB2 are those Texas students who already receive the biggest funding advantages. Count them — 36 school districts stand to benefit from this Bill, while at least 249 (or nearly one-fourth of Texas' school districts) will continue to receive the least amount of money — with a mere three percent increase in funding.

These numbers just don't mesh, especially when you consider that 249 of those school districts must contend with educating more special education students than any of the wealthier districts. Is this fair? Of course it's not. That's why we're working so hard to make sure that we don't ignore the poorer school districts, by giving more money to the wealthy. That's the disparity that currently exists in our school finance plans.

House Bill 2 fails to provide teachers and students with the resources they need to be successful. True eq-

uity — our clarion call — must be heard loud and clear. True equity will ensure that every teacher be given the means and the tools with which to educate our children in every classroom — regardless of a student's money, or lack of it.

While we can't ensure that every student will be successful and accumulate straight A's, we do want to give every student the opportunity to achieve a good grade point average — enough, at least, to push that student into higher education. How can we accomplish this? By making sure that when a student walks into a classroom, the best educated teachers, the best textbooks, and the best technology will be waiting.

In short, mi gente, let's do everything in our power to ensure that our students, whether poor or rich, receive everything they need to have a successful educational experience. Our future depends on it. Stay tuned for further news on this issue, as I continue to work to honorably represent you. As always, I remain your friend and public servant, Chente For la Gente

Canutillo MS students delve into storytelling and puppetry

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Professional storyteller Terry Alvarez used the narratives, *The Emperor's New Clothes*, *The Black Prince*, and *The Voodoo Woman From Vado*, to engage Canutillo Middle School students in the art of telling stories.

Alvarez presented her recipe for storytelling to CMS students in Laura Biernacki's visual arts and Barbara Petermeier's language arts seventh grade classes recently. Alvarez was invited to share her story telling secrets as part of the classes' lessons on folktales, fables, myths, and legends.

"We are putting together a puppet show using the stories we have studied, and we plan to take our show on

the road to the elementary schools in the district and a local nursing home," said Petermeier.

Plans are also to have students in the language arts classes collaborate and produce a book of local folklore with illustrations designed by the students in the visual arts classes. The book should be completed in May, said Petermeier.

Puppet maker Susan Jewell, an art teacher at Vista Middle School in Las

Cruces, also visited with these students recently and presented a two-day workshop on how to make puppets.

Using socks, yarn, and other fabrics, students were taught to create puppets of the main characters in their selected stories. Students have been working in small groups to make the puppets and props necessary to tell their tale. "I really enjoyed learning about folktales from different countries and



— Contributed by Canutillo ISD

IT'S ALL IN THE WRIST — Canutillo seventh grade students create their puppets. Shown in photo, from left, is Brisa Leony, Dulce Marquez, and Elizabeth Cadena.



— Contributed by Canutillo ISD

SO THE STORY GOES — Terry Alvarez shares her storytelling tips with Canutillo Middle School students.

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

Why do you love Texas?

Ask anyone who knows me: I love the great state of Texas and would rather be there than anywhere else.

There are so many great things to do and see in Texas. I think the best way to learn about our state and all its wonders is to ask someone who calls Texas home. That's why I'm starting the Texas Pride Project.

This is an opportunity for Texans to tell me why they love Texas. I'm encouraging each of you to share your favorite thing about our great state. Each month I'll profile my favorite essay on my congressional website.

So, do you love Texas? What is it that you love most? The rolling hills, the beautiful plains, the lakes, the amazing sunsets? Or maybe a local diner, great ranch or small ghost town? It's not just the scenery, but

the people and traditions that make Texas special.

It's been said that Texans love their state more than anyone else in America. Our affection is not reserved just to travelers and sightseers. Perhaps your son or daughter can't stop talking about their favorite bike path. Maybe your neighbor visited the river last weekend and has fallen in love with the rapids.

That's why I'm opening my Texas Pride Project to everyone from the 23rd district — no matter how young or old or rural or urban. If you or someone you know would like to participate in this project, here's how:

- Essays should be between 150 and 500 words.
- Please include your name, mailing address and phone or email along with your essay.

- Please feel free to include photos or drawings.
- When you're ready, mail your essay to my San Antonio office at the following address:

Office of Congressman Henry Bonilla
Attn: Texas Pride Project
11120 Wurzbach, Suite 300
San Antonio, TX 78230

There is no deadline for submissions, so please keep them coming. Remember, the top essay each month will be featured on my website, www.house.gov/bonilla.

I look forward to reading each of your essays and learning a little more about why I consider Texas the greatest place in the world.



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Veterans' legislation introduced in Congress



On this week's episode of my television show, *Congress on the Border*, well-known columnist Tom Philpott and I discuss legislation in Congress to improve life insurance for military personnel and the yearly budget for the Veterans Administration.

Responding to a demand to make life insurance available to soldiers both in combat and training for combat and to ease financial burdens on junior-level enlisted soldiers making as little as \$1,140 per month, I recently introduced the Ruben Estrella-Soto Act of 2005.

This bill would require the Department of Defense to pay monthly premiums for the Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI) program for the maximum benefit (currently \$250,000) for all military personnel holding the rank of E1 to E4 and for those serving in combat zones, traveling to and from combat zones and those training for combat.

This bill is named in honor of Ruben Estrella-Soto, an 18-year-old private

in the U.S. Army from El Paso who was killed in an ambush on Fort Bliss's 507th Maintenance Company in Nasiriyah, Iraq in March 2003.

I am also a co-sponsor of the Honoring Every Requirement of Exemplary Service (HEROES) Act by Rep. Terry Everett (R-AL). This bipartisan bill mirrors the Pentagon's recent proposals to improve military life insurance. It would increase the death gratuity paid to survivors of servicemembers lost in combat from \$12,420 to \$100,000. Raising the amount to \$100,000 will assist the families of service personnel lost in combat as they rebuild their lives.

This bill would also increase the maximum coverage under the SGLI program from \$250,000 to \$400,000 and cover the cost of premiums for the first \$150,000 for troops serving in a combat zone. An additional provision would also ensure that beneficiaries would be notified as to the level of coverage the servicemember has purchased. These changes would be retroactive to cover all those killed in Operation Enduring Freedom in

Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

As a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee and a veteran myself, I know the importance of these improvements in military benefits. As discussed on this week's *Congress on the Border*, which airs on Thursday at 6:30 on cable channel 7, Tom Philpott will closely follow this legislation throughout the year, and I think there is a good chance that we will pass these bills into law. Philpott and I also take a look at the funding levels proposed in the Bush Administration's fiscal year 2006 budget request for the Veterans' Administration.

With thousands of soldiers serving overseas right now, thousands of family members anxiously awaiting their return and reports of wounded soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan approaching 11,000, swift passage of these life insurance bills and a strong budget for the Veterans' Administration is a top priority of mine and should be a priority for Congress as a whole this year.

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TRUE TEXAS FACTS by Roger T. Moore, Feb. 28, 1948: 23 women meet in San Angelo to form the Girls Rodeo Association

No Charlene, 'Ropin' a Man' aint an O-f-f-i-c-i-a-l event!



Anthony

From Page 1

the north side.

• Franco reiterated that work is nearing completion on the renovation of an historic Anthony residence as a community center.

Funding comes from \$263,000 in community development funds.

• Butler pointed out that the new high school library would be available for use by members of the community as well as students.

• The superintendent put consolidation rumors to rest, as just rumors only without substance. He affirmed that there are no plans for consolidating Anthony ISD with another school district. "The idea of consolidating is not even there — we are not even discussing it. We are moving forward."

The next joint meeting of the Town Council and the AISD board of trustees is tentatively scheduled for May or June.



Going scientific in Tornillo

TORNILLO — The Tornillo High School Science Fair produced outstanding projects this year. Shown from left is Principal Ray Cobos; Mario Fortaleza, second place in Chemistry; Brenda Camacho and Teresa Flores, second place Life Science Anatomy; Lillian Martinez, first place in Chemistry; George Garay, second place in Chemistry; Alejandro Racelis and Patricia Dimapilis, THS science teachers.

— Contributed by Rudy Barreda

UTEP science competition invites 45 from SISD

EL PASO COUNTY — Forty-five Socorro ISD science students have won the right to compete in the regional Sun Country Science Fair at the University of Texas at El Paso Feb. 26. The students, judged in the SISD science fairs and ranked on a point system, will compete for trophies and recognition.

9th grade - From Americas High School, Brittney Barton, Clarissa Acosta, Jorge Urquidi, Eric Crouse, advanced. From Socorro High, Javier Stell-Fresquez, Rebecca Rodriguez, Dan Gutierrez, Aaron Garcia, Sarah Olivas, and Sarah Chacon, advanced.

10th grade - From Socorro High Jesus Najera, Luis A. Dominguez, Matthew Hernandez, Claryssa Rodriguez, Jose Retana, Alvaro Navarro and Raul Castellon, advanced. From Americas, those advancing were Jessica Gomez, Jesus Garcia, Gabriel Palomino and Alyssa DeLaRosa.

11th - Fredrick Rojas, Samantha Carreon, Arturo DeSantiago, Arthur Grijalva, Andrew Benitez, from Americas advanced. From Socorro, Mayra Leyva, Robert Romero, Diana Garcia, LaQuanta Stewart, Nick Valencia, Grisel Munoz and Ana Serna advanced.

12th - From Socorro High, Sarah Martinez, Sandra Cuevas, Melissa Piá, Claryssa Enriquez and Francisco Chagolla moved ahead. From Americas, Robert Mulgrave, Daniel Scott, Gloria Polanco, Sophia Peon-Leyva, Alonzo Guzman, Priscilla Mendoza and Gabriel Mendoza advanced.

Acclaimed author to visit library

EL PASO COUNTY — Judith A. Jance, author of the J.P. Beaumont mysteries, will discuss her works at



Judith A. Jance

the Westside Library on Saturday, Feb. 26 at 3 p.m. Inspired to write by her chance encounter with a serial killer, Jance is a *New York Times* best-selling author renowned for her murder mysteries.

Books will be available for purchase. The Westside library is located at 125 Belvedere. For more information call 581-2024 or visit www.elpasolibrary.org.

— Contributed by Jack Galindo



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Anthony Independent School District Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance Governmental Funds For the Year Ended August 31, 2004

Data Control Codes	10 General Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES:			
5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 1,582,800	\$ 202,571	\$ 1,785,371
5800 State Program Revenues	3,358,880	259,959	3,618,839
5900 Federal Program Revenues	381,765	676,955	1,058,720
5020 Total Revenues	5,323,445	1,139,485	6,462,930
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
0011 Instruction	2,996,260	581,302	3,577,562
0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services	144,874	1,782	146,656
0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	14,095	43,447	57,542
0021 Instructional Leadership	6,840	5,573	12,413
0023 School Leadership	341,237	4,735	345,972
0031 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	96,792	3,804	100,596
0032 Social Work Services	5,565	—	5,565
0033 Health Services	97,885	—	97,885
0034 Student (Pupil) Transportation	14,215	39,973	54,188
0035 Food Services	320,743	25,078	345,821
0036 Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities	235,578	—	235,578
0041 General Administration	427,219	39,111	466,330
0051 Plant Maintenance and Operations	679,686	11,080	690,766
0052 Security and Monitoring Services	25,451	4,000	29,451
0053 Data Processing Services	165,895	—	165,895
0061 Community Services	35,000	32,842	67,842
Debt Service:			
0071 Debt Service - Principal on long-term debt	85,505	80,000	165,505
0072 Debt Service - Interest on long-term debt	66,357	206,196	272,553
0073 Debt Service - Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	3,699	—	3,699
Intergovernmental:			
0093 Payments to Fiscal Agent/Member Districts of SSA	—	7,971	7,971
6030 Total Expenditures	5,762,896	1,086,894	6,849,790
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(439,451)	52,591	(386,860)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):			
7915 Transfers In	44,245	—	44,245
8911 Transfers Out (Use)	(44,245)	—	(44,245)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	—	—	—
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	(439,451)	52,591	(386,860)
0100 Fund Balance — September 1 (Beginning)	851,458	32,247	883,705
3000 Fund Balance — August 31 (Ending)	\$ 412,007	\$ 84,838	\$ 496,845

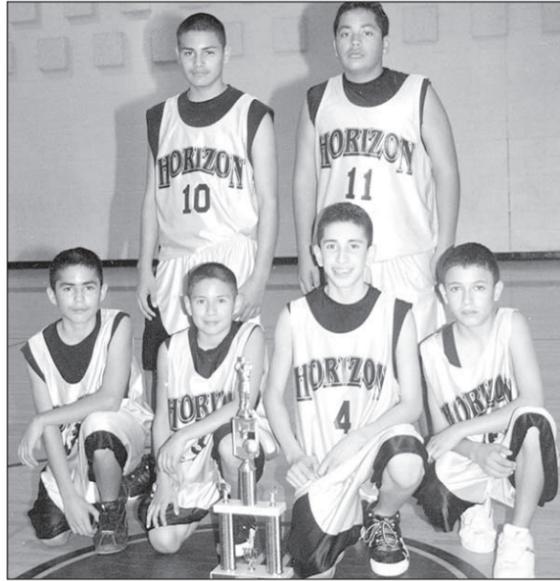
Dr. Seuss' contributions to literature celebrated

EL PASO COUNTY — Theodore Seuss Geisel (Dr. Seuss) has been prescribing books of fun and laughter for years. His beloved characters, like the Cat in the Hat and Horton the elephant, have become household names through books, television and movies for generations. During the first week of March, America will celebrate Dr. Seuss' 101st birthday. The El Paso Public Library invites everyone to take part in these special celebrations. All events are free to the public. For more information on these or other programs call 543-5468 or visit www.elpasolibrary.org.

Special Dr. Seuss Brithday Celebrations

Cielo Vista Library	8929 Viscount	Wed., March 2, 11 AM
Westside	125 Belvidere	Wed., March 2, 6:30 PM
Lower Valley	7915 San Jose Rd.	Thurs., March 3, 10 AM
Irving Schwartz	1865 Dean Martin	Thurs., March 3, 11 AM
Westside	125 Belvidere	Thurs., March 3, 11 AM
Westside	125 Belvidere	Thurs., March 3, 5 PM
Clardy Fox	5155 Robert Alva	Sat., March 5, 2 PM
Dorris Van Doren	551 Redd Road	Sat., March 5, 1 PM
Memorial Park	3200 Copper	Sat., March 5, 3 PM

— Contributed by Jack Galindo



Athletic Conference champs

HORIZON — Shown posing with their championship trophy are members of the Horizon Middle School boys 7th grade A-team who defeated Fabens 50-48 in the El Paso County Athletic Conference Post Season Tournament. Horizon finished the season as district champions with an 8-1 record. Coached by Mike Padilla, team members include, kneeling: Sam Sanchez, Sammy Chavez, Sam Ramos and Ruben Montanez. Standing are Braulio Esparza and Fabian Ramirez.

Sports

From Page 6

ton of trouble in high school, kept up his downward spiral by breaking team rules. After the Sun Devils got tired of Hill's antics, they kicked him off the team.

Enter Northern Iowa. The school decided to give Hill yet another chance to get his life together and allowed him to play football for them.

However, Hill won't even be making it to spring practice.

Seems Hill decided to get drunk in public last weekend and then went a step further by fighting with police. But this is no ordinary thug. Hill then proceeded to threaten to kill the officers and harm their families.

Who does he think he is — a member of the Sopranos?

Hill was arrested for various counts of assault on a police officer, disorderly conduct, public intoxication and interference with official acts.

You'd think his playing days were over, but I think it's just a matter of time before some other dumb college administrator or coach gives Hill a call and invites him to wreck havoc on yet another campus.

Besides, what's a few arrests compared to the almighty touchdown?

Briefs

From Page 1

6 to 9:30 p.m. Feb. 25 and the cheer competitions, slated for 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 26. Student Activities Director Miyesser Collins says more than 40 elementary, middle school and high school students as well as private groups are scheduled to perform in various categories each day. Styles include pom, kick, novelty prop, hip-hop and funk/jazz. "This is a good practice for the teams because everything we do at this competi-

tion is identical to the national competitions," Collins says. "Different teams go to different national competitions, and this is good preparation for the nationals in Dallas, Las Vegas and Los Angeles." Teams from SISD, Ysleta ISD, El Paso ISD, Clint ISD and San Elizario ISD plus Albuquerque, Las Cruces, Roswell, Alpine and Juarez are expected to participate. Admission is \$2/students, \$3/adults and children younger than 5 years will be admitted without charge. The competition is being produced by the Americas Class of 2005 as a fundraiser. For more information, call Collins, 937-2832.

■ Socorro High School students will have a chance to hear about financial success and personal perseverance at 2:15 to 3:45 p.m. Feb. 18 when Martin Cabrera Jr., president of Chicago's Cabrera Capital Markets, Inc., speaks to students during a session in the school's Performing Arts Theatre. Cabrera is in El Paso as the keynote speaker for the Federal Reserve Board's Economics Extravaganza. Cabrera's firm is the only Hispanic-owned firm headquartered in the Midwest; CCM holds a seat on the Chicago Stock Exchange and specializes in institutional brokerage for public and corporate pension funds. The company is cred-

ited with writing more than \$35 billion in municipal bonds. Cabrera is a native Chicagoan, and earned his degree in finance from Northern Illinois University. He also studied at the London School of Economics and worked for Merrill Lynch International Ltd. For information call SHS teacher Paul Harrington, 937-2186.

■ Canutillo Independent School District parents and community members are invited to view the state-approved textbook selections in Fine Arts, Health Education, Physical Education, and Languages other than English that are up for adoption for the 2005-2006

school year, according to Kim Guzman. Each of the six CISD school campuses as well as the district warehouse on Artcraft has samples from which the CISD Textbook Committee will make its recommendation to the Board of Trustees in March. These books will be on display at each location from Monday, Feb. 28 to Friday, March 4 during regular school hours. Interested individuals may view the books and fill out comment forms. "Be sure to sign in at each campus and follow district regulations regarding visitors," commented Carol Hecker, CISD Textbook coordinator. For information, call 877-7443.

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5 Gal. Mondale Pine

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Offer Expires 03-06-05

Hockey season on ice... really... no hockey this year

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

I've got a news flash for all of you sports fans out there — there's no hockey being played this year. No — really!

The National Hockey League has canceled its season. Yeah, well, I guess you don't care much either.

Over the weekend the NHL announced that the season was officially canceled. Then, like a John Kerry stump speech, the complete opposite was being reported. It was announced that the season had been "un-canceled."

Then, after some long meetings it was announced that the season was "off" again.

Sounds like an awful lot of media coverage for a sport nobody cares about. Alright, I really shouldn't say nobody, but honestly, how many of you are avid hockey fans? How many of you would rush home to catch a hockey game on TV?

Me neither.

In many circles in America, they are referred to as the four majors, football, baseball, basketball and hockey. But really, is there any more doubt that hockey has now gone the way of arena football, the WNBA and beach volleyball?

How many of you can name more than five NHL players? Four... three?

What's even more disheartening for the NHL is that on many talk shows, hockey fans themselves are saying they don't miss the games as much as they thought they would.

Can you imagine what things would be like if there were no professional football in the winter? What if there were no baseball in the summer where every dad could bond with his kids?

So what does this mean for the future of the sport? Will hockey survive this? One thing is clear, hockey was holding on by a razor-thin skate blade before the lockout. Now the damage may be irreparable.

So shall we pull the plug on professional hockey and put it out of its misery?

I think I'm like many others when I answer:

"Who cares?"

Bean Town bullies

What's the deal with the Boston Red Sox and the Yankee's Alex Rodriguez?

Have you heard of all the banter between the Sox players and A-Rod?

Seems seven different Red Sox players took turns bashing Rodriguez over a six-day span last week.

Trot Nixon got the ball rolling when he called Rodriguez a clown for making the comment that he gets up to workout early in the morning while other players were sleeping or taking their kids to school.

Nixon also said that A-Rod was not Yankee material.

Teammates Curt Schilling, David Wells, Jason Varitek, Bronson Arroyo, Keith Foulke and Kevin Millar joined in the take-a-swipe-at-A-Rod-a-thon.

Millar said "A-Rod's salary doesn't dictate that he's a Yankee. \$25-million doesn't mean he's a Yankee."

Why the sudden infatuation? I don't know what's gotten into the Red Sox but it isn't a very classy display by the world champions.

When you sit on top of the baseball world you shouldn't spend time making petty comments usually reserved for teams not talented enough to do all their talking on the field.

C'mon, Boston, I know you hadn't won anything since 1918 so you're not used to it, but at least try to *act* like champions.

Down Hill

Some guys just don't get it. They go through life without the slightest clue.

Hakim Hill is one of those lost souls who had a chance to do something with his life but opted for tossing it all away.

Hill led Arizona State in rushing after his freshman year and appeared on his way to fame and glory. But instead of fame, he went down in flames.

Hill, who came to ASU after getting into a

See SPORTS, Page 5

Classified Ads

LEGAL

NOTICE OF PETITION TO RECONCILE FUEL COSTS

El Paso Electric Company ("EPE") petitioned the Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") on August 31, 2004 for authority to reconcile its eligible fuel expenses and revenues for the period of January 1, 2002 through February 29, 2004 ("Reconciliation Period"). In its petition, EPE has also requested to implement a fuel surcharge of its cumulative under-recovery of fuel expenses through the end of the Reconciliation Period. This petition, if granted, will affect all Texas retail customers who pay fixed fuel factors. This petition has no effect on EPE's non-fuel base rates. EPE incurred a total of \$264,144,513 in eligible fuel, fuel related, and purchased power expenses to generate and purchase electric energy for its Texas retail customers. At the conclusion of the Reconciliation Period, EPE had a cumulative under-recovery of such expenses of \$8,632,150. EPE seeks to implement a surcharge of this amount, along with associated interest, over a 12-month period, effective with bills rendered during the first billing cycle of November 2004 through the October 2005 billing cycle. If the proposed 12-month surcharge is approved, a residential customer using 500 kWh per month will see an average increase of \$0.65 in the monthly bill, 1.17% of the total electric bill during the surcharge on

other customers' bills will vary depending on the rate schedule under which the customers take service.

Persons with questions or who want more information on this Petition may contact El Paso Electric Company at 123 W. Mills, El Paso, Texas 79901, or call toll-free at 1-(800)-592-1634 (when instructed, press 7, then four-digit extension 5947 plus #) during normal business hours. A complete copy of this Petition is available for inspection at the address listed above. Persons who wish to formally participate in this proceeding, or who wish to express their comments concerning this Petition should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Office of Customer Protection, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call 1-(512)-936-7120, or toll-free at 1-(888)-782-8477. Hearing and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may call 1-(512)-936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll-free) at 1-(800)-735-2989. A deadline for intervention will be established for this proceeding. WTCC: 02/24/05

AVISO DE SOLICITUD DE CONCILIACIÓN DE TARIFAS

EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY ("EPE") solicitó a la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas ("Comisión") el 31 de Agosto del 2004 que se le otorgue la autoridad de conciliar gastos e ingresos elegibles de combustible

desde el primero de enero del 2002 al 29 de febrero del 2004 ("Período de Conciliación"). En su solicitud, EPE también propone implementar un Sobreprecio de Combustible por el recuperado en gastos por combustible hasta el fin del período de conciliación. Al otorgarse, esta solicitud afectará a todos los clientes de menudeo de Texas que actualmente pagan costos fijos por combustible. Esta solicitud no afectará las tarifas de EPE que no se basan en combustible. Durante el período de conciliación, EPE incurrió un total de \$264,144,513 en combustible elegible, en otros relacionados al combustible y en gastos por la compra de energía para la generación y compra de energía eléctrica para clientes de menudeo de Texas. Al concluir el período de conciliación, EPE tenía un acumulado de gastos sin recuperar de \$8,632,150. EPE busca implementar un sobreprecio por esta cantidad y los interesados durante un período de 12 meses, efectivo a partir de los recibos producidos durante el primer ciclo de facturación de noviembre del 2004 hasta el ciclo de facturación de octubre del 2005. Si el sobreprecio propuesto por 12 meses es aprobado, un cliente residencial con consumo mensual de 500 kwh tendrá un aumento promedio de \$0.65 en su recibo mensual, 1.17% del

recibo total de electricidad durante ese período de recuperación. El efecto del sobreprecio en los recibos de otros clientes variará dependiendo de la tarifa que les corresponde.

Las personas que tengan dudas o que requieran mas información sobre esta solicitud pueden comunicarse a El Paso Electric Company, 123 W. Mills, El Paso, Texas 79901, o pueden llamar gratis al 1-(800)-592-1634 (cuando le sea solicitado, presione el 7, después la extensión de cuatro dígitos 5947, más el signo #) durante horas hábiles normales. Una copia completa de esta solicitud está a su disposición en la dirección arriba mencionada. Las personas que deseen participar formalmente en estos procedimientos o deseen expresar sus comentarios sobre esta solicitud deberán comunicarse a la Oficina de Protección al Consumidor (Office of Customer Protection) en la Comisión de Servicios Públicos de Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, o llamar al 1-(512)-936-7120, o llamar gratis al 1-(888)-782-8477. Las personas no a las imposibilidades del habla y del oído con teletipo (TTY) pueden llamar al 1-(512) 936-7136 o llamar gratis a través de Relay Texas al 1-(800)-735-2989. Se establecerá una fecha límite para la intervención en este procedimiento. WTCC: 02/24/05

NOTICE TO CUSTOMER

Texas Gas Service Company, a division of ONEOK, Inc. ("Company"), hereby gives notice of its intent to implement a new schedule of rates for approximately 184,186 residential, 11,746 commercial, 70 industrial, 792 municipal water pumping and 49 standard transportation customers within the incorporated areas of El Paso, Anthony, Clint, Horizon City, Socorro and Vinton, Texas, in accordance with the Company's Statement of Intent filed with the Cities of El Paso, Anthony, Clint, Horizon City, Socorro and Vinton, Texas, on February 18, 2005. The proposed effective date is for meters read on and after May 31, 2005.

It is anticipated that the effect of the change in rates will be to increase the revenues of the Company within the El Paso Service Area by approximately \$1,207,239 or 0.95 percent. The proposed change does not constitute a "major" change as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code.

The proposed tariffs include increases in gas sales and transportation rates for all residential, commercial, industrial, public authority, and municipal water pumping customers in the incorporated areas of the El Paso Service Area. The effect of the change in rates, when allowed, will be to increase the revenues of the

Company by approximately 0.95 percent. Based on the proposed rate design, the average monthly residential bill of 45 Ccf will increase by approximately \$0.40, or 1.2 percent, the average monthly commercial bill of 279 Ccf will increase approximately \$1.46, or 0.8 percent, the average monthly public authority bill of 975 Ccf will increase approximately \$4.56 or 0.7 percent, the average monthly industrial bill of 2,926 Ccf will increase approximately \$12.41, or 0.6 percent, the average monthly municipal water pumping bill of 11,698 Ccf will increase approximately \$28.48 or 0.4 percent, and the average standard transportation bill of 31,397 Ccf will increase approximately \$80.03 or 3.1%.

A complete copy of the Statement of Intent is available for inspection in the municipalities' offices and in the Company's business office located at 4600 Pollard St., El Paso, Texas 79930.

TEXAS GAS SERVICE COMPANY

WTCC: 02/24/05

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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.

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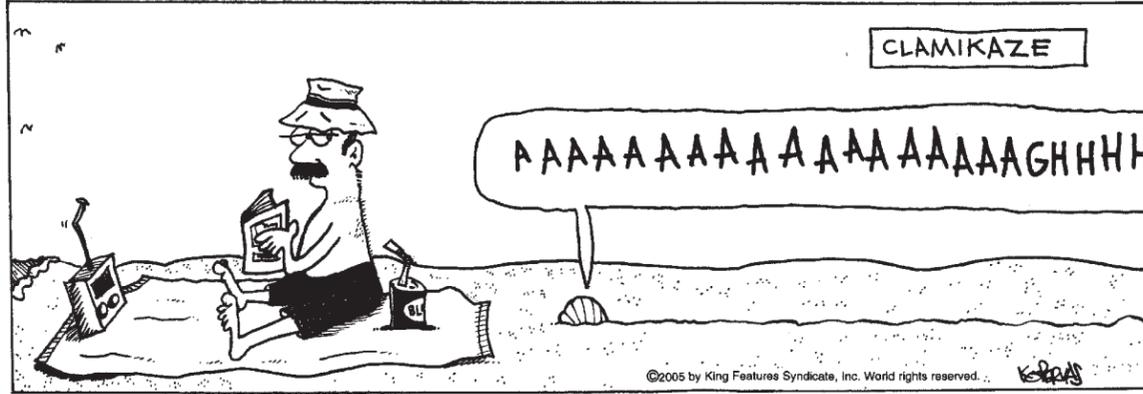
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14200 Ashford, Ste. C
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Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Beware of dangers — everywhere

By Don Flood

You consider yourself a good parent, perhaps you're even a wise and caring "safety mom" who makes her kids wear helmets and knee pads to ride the elevator.

And yet, right this very minute, you may be exposing your family to: BAGELS!

Bagels and other "Dangerous Things That Don't Seem Dangerous At All" were highlighted in a recent "Bottom Line Personal" article that made it clear that just about Everything Is Dangerous.

OK, to be fair, bagels, in themselves, are not considered hazardous — except of course that they contain enough carbs to stop a polar bear dead in its tracks — but they do become lethal when accompanied by a knife.

People foolhardily pick up a bagel in one hand, a knife in the other and calmly perform a bagelotomy on themselves — or rather their hands. People so admire their skill with a knife that they don't stop when they're finished cutting the bagel — they slice right through their ligaments and tendons. Look, Ma, no tendons!

Here's another danger alert from the same article — books.

Fortunately, many Americans have already taken this warning to heart and are ridding their homes of all reading materials, in addition to books — just in case.

"Each year," and this is straight from the magazine, "more than 10,000 Americans suffer book-related injuries." (Be sure kids wear helmets and knee pads to the library too!) According to the article, people fall when reaching up high for books, while others injure their backs lifting heavy, book-filled boxes.

And yet bookstores continue to sell these dangerous objects with-

out so much as a warning label!

Note: If you make the "safety first" decision to dispose of your books, do not make the mistake, on trash day, of leaving them in boxes outside, where they could easily fall into the wrong hands.

Imagine how you'd feel if your books, heavy tomes that could be thrown at innocent people, became mixed up in a criminal plot. You'd have some pretty fancy explaining to do:

POLICE: Have you ever owned a copy of the "Velveeta Guide to Entertaining With Cheese"?

YOU: Ummm, I don't think so. POLICE: Don't think so, huh? That's odd, because a neighbor of yours remembers quite clearly a copy of that very book.

YOU: I guess it's possible.

POLICE: You guess it's possible? Perhaps this photo, taken by your neighbor, will refresh your memory. As you can see...

YOU: I confess! I confess!

From there, it's a short trip to the slammer.

One of the other dangers, as you might imagine, is folding money — nasty stuff, just filled with germs.

When holding a \$5 bill, one way to tell if your money is infected is to check Honest Abe's expression.

If he's holding his nose or his hair is standing on end, that's a sign your money's contaminated.

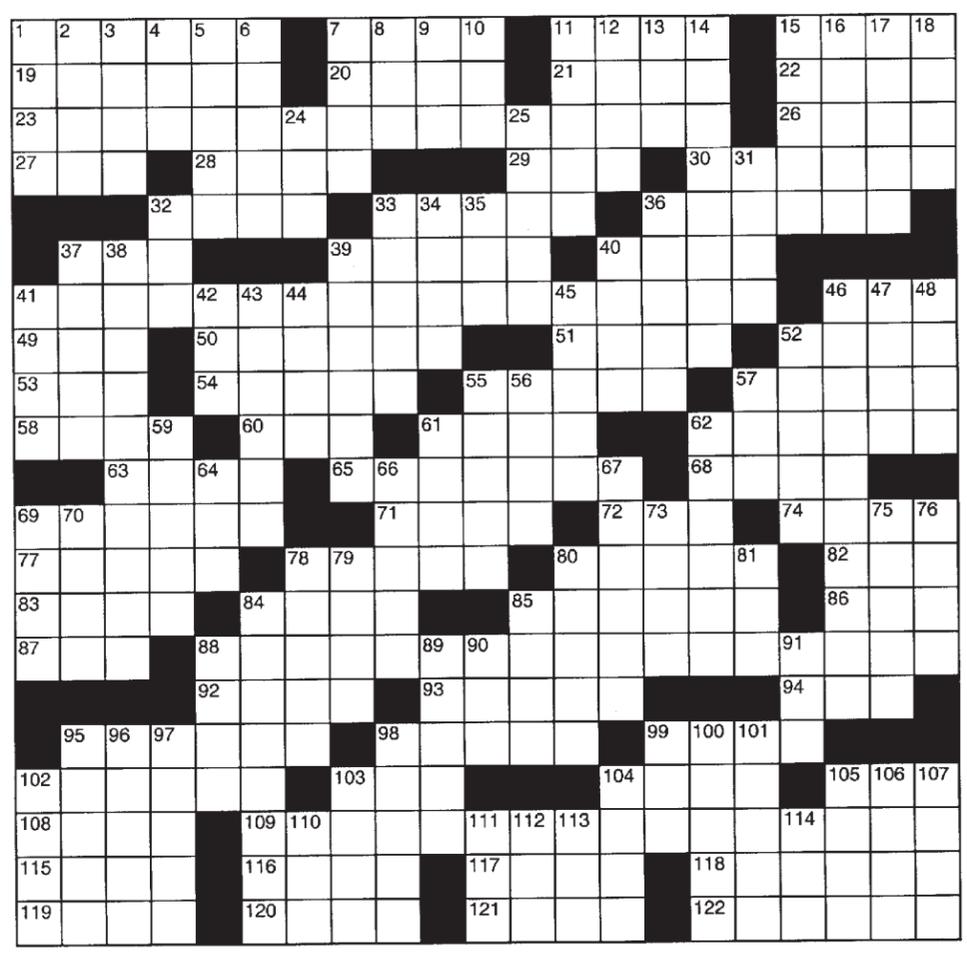
But even if Abe looks only mildly perturbed, do you really want to take the chance, with your family's safety at stake?

I don't think so. So send your money to me, no matter how dirty, and you can rest easier, knowing I will dispose of it properly. There's no charge. I consider it a public service.

(c) 2005 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Super Crossword

- WHO NEEDS IT?**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Pay hike?
 - 7 Chore
 - 11 Styptic pencil stiff
 - 15 Predicament
 - 19 Model Kim
 - 20 Press
 - 21 It's a long story
 - 22 "Inter _"
 - 23 Start of a remark
 - 26 Fluff the flour
 - 27 Mr. Hammarskjold
 - 28 Composer Satie
 - 29 Majors or Marvin
 - 30 Layers
 - 32 Had kittens?
 - 33 Postern and portcullis
 - 36 Main squeeze
 - 37 " _ culpa" alarm?
 - 39 Heavenly hunter
 - 40 "I bet!"
 - 41 Part 2 of remark
 - 46 Faux _
 - 49 Fireworks reaction
 - 50 " _ Boulevard" ('50 film)
 - 51 They may be rolled
 - 52 Billings or Mostel
 - 53 Neighbor of Miss.
 - 54 " _ Blade" ('96 film)
 - 55 Leans
 - 57 It's taken by nurses
 - 58 Sharp taste
 - 60 Skater Midori
 - 61 Wine choice
- DOWN**
- 1 Spoke out
 - 2 - Romeo
 - 3 _ shui
 - 4 Medieval weapon
 - 5 Kitchen gadget
 - 6 Grenoble's river
 - 7 Walrus weapon
 - 8 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
 - 9 NCO
 - 10 It may be major
 - 11 Fatheads
 - 12 _ bloomer
 - 13 "Yuck!"
 - 14 Mehta and Muti
 - 15 Iraqi city
 - 16 Homeric work
 - 17 Cool
 - 18 Base stuff?
 - 24 Bream of baseball
 - 25 Actress Graff
 - 31 " _ Angel" ('60 smash)
 - 32 "Pshaw!"
 - 33 "Peer Gynt" composer
 - 34 Nonstandard contraction
 - 35 "Mazel _!"
 - 36 Fills the bill
 - 37 Dough
 - 38 Wharton work
 - 39 "Smilla's Sense _" ('97 film)
 - 40 Actuary's fig.
- 41 Ditch under a drawbridge
 - 42 Road curve
 - 43 Decree
 - 44 Step _ (hurry)
 - 45 Nick of "The Deep"
 - 46 Party animal?
 - 47 Guy Fri.
 - 48 Queens stadium
 - 52 Raul of "The Addams Family"
 - 55 At present
 - 56 Rock's _ Butterfly
 - 57 Petite pooch
 - 59 Bellyache
 - 61 Journalist Ernie
 - 62 Mime Yarnell
 - 64 Picnic crasher?
 - 66 Devastation
 - 67 Fashionable event
 - 69 Like Mussorgsky's mountain
 - 70 Garfield's pal
 - 73 Actor Guinness
 - 75 Tie the knot
 - 76 Fluctuate
 - 78 Telescope view
 - 79 Responsibility
 - 80 Wired
 - 81 _ Plains, IL
 - 84 Exemplar
 - of slowness
 - 85 Cut cuticles
 - 88 Cut coupons
 - 89 "84 Charing Cross Road" author
 - 90 Psychic Geller
 - 91 _ Paulo, Brazil
- 95 Uncouth
 - 96 Boca _ FL
 - 97 Ward off
 - 98 Morley of '60 Minutes"
 - 99 Charged atom
 - 100 Puzo product
 - 101 Singer Payne
 - 102 Ink stain
 - 103 Trick
 - 104 Carthaginian queen
 - 105 Raison d'_
 - 106 Soccer superstar
 - 107 Mideastern gulf
 - 110 _ kwon do
 - 111 Jewel
 - 112 Inflatable item?
 - 113 Use a shuttle
 - 114 Lepidopterist's need



Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: How do I subscribe to Social Security's electronic newsletter?

A: Just go to www.ssa.gov/eneews/ to subscribe. Each month you will receive our free electronic newsletter packed with important news from Social Security.

Q: I am receiving Social Security disability benefits. I've heard that you can continue to receive benefits while you attempt to work, but I'm afraid to ask my Social Security office be-

cause they might think I'm not disabled. Can you tell me about this?

A: There are a number of special rules, called "work incentives," which may make it possible for you to continue to receive disability benefits while you work. These work incentives may also help with your work expenses, medical bills, rehabilitation and vocational training. They are designed to eliminate the risk of losing benefits while you attempt to work. Social Security en-

courages people to use work incentives. You should check out our website, www.ssa.gov/work, or call us at 1-800-772-1213 for more information. Our booklet, Working While Disabled—How We Can Help, explains the work incentives in detail.

Q: I applied for SSI disability benefits about a year ago and was turned down. My disability has gotten worse and I still cannot work. Can I apply again?

A: Yes. Even if you were denied before, you may qualify now since your condition has gotten worse. You can apply online at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Q: Someone told me that there's a Social Security website for kids. Why do kids need to know about Social Security?

A: It's important to teach our children the basic concepts behind Social Security. It teaches them the value of saving and the importance of planning for the future. Teaching these values at an early age will help them to be prepared when the time comes for them to make financial decisions. Social Security's website has pages designed especially for young people in terms they can understand. The web presentation includes infor-

mational and educational materials suitable for grades kindergarten through six (Social Security Kids Stuff) and grades seven through 12 (Hot Questions for Cool Teens). The pages also include sections for parents and teachers. Check out our kid's page at www.ssa.gov/kids/kids.htm

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
▲ 60°	▼ 40°	▲ 56° ▼ 38°	▲ 58° ▼ 38°	▲ 60° ▼ 38°	▲ 62° ▼ 38°	▲ 60° ▼ 35°	▲ 62° ▼ 36°

UV INDEX Statistics for noon.

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

Thursday	4	Low
Friday	6	Moderate
Saturday	6	Moderate
Sunday	4	Low
Monday	6	Moderate
Tuesday	5	Moderate
Wednesday	7	High

REAL FEEL TEMP®

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

Thursday	46°
Friday	51°
Saturday	48°
Sunday	48°
Monday	63°
Tuesday	56°
Wednesday	63°

TEXAS WEATHER

Anthony	59	40
Canutillo	59	40
Clint	56	39
E. Montana	59	40
Fabens	56	39
Horizon	60	41
San Elizario	57	38
Socorro	58	39
Tornillo	56	39
Vinton	59	40

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	46/32/r	48/32/sh	50/32/pc	53/32/c	52/27/c
Atlanta	52/38/r	56/38/c	60/38/pc	56/36/pc	51/33/c
Atlantic City	35/17/pc	35/19/pc	34/17/pc	40/24/s	43/24/c
Austin/San Antonio	52/40/r	56/41/r	58/42/pc	62/41/pc	63/43/sh
Baltimore	36/22/pc	38/22/pc	38/22/pc	40/26/s	46/26/pc
Boston	28/16/pc	28/20/c	28/20/c	36/28/s	42/28/c
Chicago	32/24/sf	38/26/sf	42/28/pc	46/32/r	38/20/c
Dallas/Ft. Worth	51/40/r	55/38/c	55/40/pc	57/40/t	58/38/r
Denver	46/24/pc	49/22/pc	47/22/c	45/20/c	40/13/sn
Flagstaff	39/20/sf	39/20/sf	41/20/sh	42/20/c	43/18/c
Houston	58/46/r	56/48/r	58/42/pc	62/46/pc	65/46/pc
Kansas City	46/32/pc	50/29/pc	50/29/pc	44/28/pc	43/22/c
Las Vegas	60/42/sh	60/44/pc	62/42/pc	62/45/pc	62/42/c
Miami	82/67/pc	82/67/pc	78/67/r	78/65/sh	80/63/c
Minneapolis	28/15/sn	28/14/sf	30/18/pc	32/17/c	27/10/sn
New Orleans	64/49/sh	62/51/r	64/48/pc	64/49/pc	65/48/sh
New York City	32/22/pc	32/22/pc	32/19/pc	38/29/s	42/30/c
Philadelphia	34/22/pc	34/22/pc	34/20/pc	38/28/s	43/28/c
Phoenix	63/47/sh	63/47/pc	65/50/pc	66/49/c	67/45/c
Portland	60/38/s	56/38/pc	56/38/pc	56/38/pc	54/36/s
San Francisco	59/46/pc	60/46/c	60/48/c	60/49/pc	61/46/c
Seattle	56/38/s	54/38/pc	52/38/pc	52/38/pc	51/38/s
Tucson	62/42/t	64/42/sh	64/42/sh	66/42/pc	68/44/pc
Washington, DC	36/26/sn	40/26/pc	40/26/pc	42/28/s	47/31/pc

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

AGRICULTURE

A cold air mass will try to press into the region Thursday and Friday. This will lead to a few showers, with rainfall amounts generally under 0.25 of an inch. The colder air will not quite make it into the region, so temperatures over the next several days will be close to average.

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