



NEWSBRIEFS

Fresh food

This Saturday, Sept. 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the public is invited to the Mission Trail Harvest Market. It is a family-friendly gathering place to go for fresh regional fruits and vegetables. Shoppers will have the opportunity to come face to face with the farmers who grow the food. Live band Midnight Mist will provide entertainment. The market is at the corner of Zaragoza and Socorro in the Mission Valley, in back of Casino Speaking Rock. For more info 588-7920.

Stash house

A house in Socorro was apparently the originating location of some 2,300 pounds of marijuana confiscated from a van stopped for an immigration check on Texas Highway 20 by U.S. Customs and Border Protection Border patrol agents from Fabens. A subsequent cooperative search by CBP agents and officers of the Texas Department of Public Safety resulted in the seizure of an additional 5,225 pounds from the Socorro residence and the arrest of four more male suspects. "This latest seizure is a prime example of El Paso's strong law enforcement partnership," said Michael D. Moon, Interim Chief Patrol Agent. After the van was stopped, the driver attempted to flee on foot but was apprehended. Working with information from the Texas DPS, it was suspected that the contents of the van were only part of a larger stash. Agents said the narcotics confiscated from the stash house bore markings consistent with those found in the van. A total of 7,525 was seized with an estimated street value of more than \$6 million.

Favorable BRAC ruling

The 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment (BRAC) Commission voted in favor of the Pentagon's proposed gains for Fort Bliss. Changes to Fort Bliss include:

- Two heavy Brigade Combats Teams from the 1st Armored Division in Germany
- One heavy Brigade Combat Team that is currently being established at Fort Bliss
- Field Artillery brigade from Fort Sill, Oklahoma

"Given Fort Bliss's contributions to today's military and our hard work educating Pentagon officials and BRAC Commissioners about Fort Bliss and the El Paso community, I was confident that the BRAC Commission would vote in our favor and am pleased with this outcome," said Congressman Silvestre Reyes. "This decision is fantastic news for our community, our economy, and the military as a whole."

In other news

■ Detectives from the El Paso Police Department's Crimes Against Persons Unit and Special Agents from the FBI are

See BRIEFS, Page 4

The salary we used to dream of is the one we can't live on today.

— Quips & Quotes

Socorro teacher named Region 19 Elementary Teacher of the Year

By Carlos A. Briano
Special to the Courier

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — Vickie Brown of the Socorro Independent School District was named the 2005-2006 Region 19 Elementary Teacher of the Year. The Aug. 25 recognition banquet at the Camino Real Hotel was hosted by the Education Service Center-Region 19 and sponsored by SBC and Scholastic.

"It was so incredible," Brown says. "I was so shocked, surprised and overwhelmed, especially when I looked around at all the fabulous teachers that were there. Any one of them could have received this honor."

A panel of judges selected Brown from a group of 21 finalist representing area school districts. The teachers were measured in areas of personal and professional experience, community service, philosophy of teaching and other educational criteria.

"It was wonderful to see Vicky win," says former Helen Ball principal Paula Wulff. "She exemplifies what teaching is all about."

Brown has been a teacher for 18 years and has been at Helen Ball since 1999. She currently teaches third grade. Students in her class were quite happy that their teacher won the prestigious honor.

"I am so glad she won because she's the best teacher I've ever had," says third grader Ana Ulate. "I told her, 'Thank God you won!'"

Her classmate Andrew Aldama believes his future success will directly attributed to Mrs. Brown.

"I knew she was going to win," he says. "She teaches us stuff that others don't learn until later. When I go to college, I'm defi-



— Photo courtesy Socorro ISD

TOPS IN REGION — Vickie Brown of the SISD was named the 2005-2006 Region 19 Elementary Teacher of the Year.

ninitely going to do well. I'm just so happy she won."

Brown received a cash award, a plaque and will serve as spokespersons for El Paso's public education. She will go on to compete at the Texas Teacher of the Year competition. Brown will also be invited to the annual Texas Teachers Forum sponsored by the Texas A&M University System and the Texas Education Agency to discuss issues related to the teaching profession.

"We represent thousands of working teachers who put themselves on the line everyday," Brown says. "They are entrusted with our most precious children."

October declared as amnesty month for JP Court #6 Offenders to get second chance to pay up

Courier Staff Reports

EAST EL PASO COUNTY — In a massive docket-clearing move in Justice of the Peace Court Precinct 6, Judge Ruben Lujan has declared the month of October, 2005, as an amnesty opportunity for numerous offenders.

"There's 16,000 people out there who need to come clean," Judge Lujan said. "This is a good way to get it done."

Between Oct. 1 and Oct. 31, 2005, persons charged with Class E misdemeanor crimes after Jan. 1, 2001 through the Pct. 6 court can settle these cases without paying the additional charges incurred from warrants and failure to appear fines.

Class E misdemeanors include — but are not limited to — traffic citations, county health violations, minor assault charges, truancy (failure to attend school), animal abuse, and public intoxication.

During this amnesty month, the court will dismiss \$259 — the \$50 fine incurred when a warrant is issued for persons 17 years of age and older and a \$209 fine which is automatically added when a defendant does not appear for a court hearing.

Judge Lujan said defendants wanting to take advantage of the amnesty can call the court beginning Oct. 1 and give their name and date of birth. A court representative will then tell the caller the amount necessary to settle the case and payment will be accepted in cash, money order or certified check.

Class E misdemeanors incurred prior to Dec. 31, 2000, will be wiped off the docket regardless, Lujan said. Cases that long ago are considered beyond resolution by the court, he said.

However, the 16,000 incurred after that time, from Jan. 1, 2001 to the present, will continue to be subject to prosecution and can be settled during the amnesty month.



— File photo

SETTLE UP — JP#6, Ruben Lujan, says people should jump on his amnesty offer to clear up their records during October.

Reclaimed wastewater: An idea that could soak in

By Kathleen Phillips
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — As water becomes ever more scarce, quenching thirsty crops with wastewater may be a good idea if done right, researchers here say.

"Managing reclaimed water by pretreating before using it to irrigate, monitoring for viruses, choosing correct crops and periodically leaching the soils should be successful and safe," said Dr. George Di Giovanni, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station environmental microbiologist.

Di Giovanni and his colleagues studied the movement of viruses carried in water through sandy and clay soils on which spinach was planted. They were interested in how long viruses in the water remain in the soil, how they move through the soil and whether they could harm humans or livestock. Their findings have been accepted for an article in Agriculture Ecosystems and Environment journal.

"No bacteriophage (virus) was found on the spinach leaves, regardless of the type of soil they grew in," Di Giovanni said.

The tests were done in a greenhouse in soil collected from the region. Two types of water were tested — a blend of reclaimed water and filtered wastewater laced with bacteriophage, which is a type of virus that infects only bacteria. A bacteriophage is often used in studies as a substitute for human viruses, Di Giovanni said. The water was dripped under the soil surface in plastic columns built for the test.

The research found that bacteriophage could be found on the crusty surfaces of both soil types and remained in the clay soil for about a month after irrigation ended.

"That suggests that human viruses could also linger in the soil," Di Giovanni said. "Reclaimed water must be effectively treated to remove or kill pathogens before use, regardless of irrigation method."

Finding such uses for reclaimed water is vital, said Experiment Station wastewater researcher Dr. Naomi Assadian.

"Wastewater reuse for agriculture and managed landscapes will be necessary to meet growing water demands and conserve current drinking supplies in arid regions such as the upper Rio Grande River area," Assadian said. "But alternative supplies, such as treated municipal wastewater, often contain microbial and chemical elements that may affect public health and/or the environment."

Assadian and Di Giovanni collaborated on the project with Dr. Jaime Iglesias, Texas Cooperative Extension agent in El Paso County; Dr. Juan Enciso, Experiment Station agriculture engineer in Weslaco; and Dr. William Lindemann, New Mexico State University agronomist.

The researchers said a "closed system," as in their method of using underground pipes to apply water to the crop, limited exposure to the soil surface and edible parts of the crop, a positive finding as scientists continue to explore how to reuse water.

While their study showed a feasible use of wastewater, the researchers said similar trials would need to be conducted at each site where such a system is considered. That's because variations in soil might yield different results, they said.



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

If I had a hammer...

You get the notice in the mail and because you are a good, law-abiding citizen, you mark your calendar.

On the specified date you put on decent, law-abiding clothes and go downtown, braving traffic, parking tickets, confusion and bureaucracy. Maybe you think you're just a citizen doing your duty. You think you are a bonafide member of a constitutionally ordained jury pool, the very backbone and essence of our judicial system.

But that's not really what you are. In fact, you're just a hammer.

You might as well be made of steel, with a big flat nose used for striking things to bend or drive them to suit a certain purpose. You might as well have a long wooden handle — or if you're a more recent model, one made of fiberglass — making it possible for you to be wielded with strength and purpose, though certainly not your own.

Like so many other institutions of our culture, the principle of trial by jury that underpins our judicial system has become just another source of power to be manipulated by both sides in an adversarial system of justice which has little to do with guilt or innocence.

Like professional sports, education, commerce and marriage, our legal system has become so thoroughly diluted with politics, greed and competition that it matters little whether the person charged with a crime is actually guilty. What matters more is the number of cases that can be settled by the prosecution in a fashion that looks good in the media or, on the side of the defense, in a way that minimizes the penalty that may be suffered by a client. Prosecu-

tion nor defense are seldom, if ever, motivated by whether the person charged with a crime actually committed the crime.

I remember the moment this cold realization sank into my overly idealistic teen-age consciousness while sitting in an evening Police Science class listening to a guest speaker who happened to be an defense attorney I had watched through numerous court trials.

He said as a defense attorney, you don't even really want to know if your client is guilty or innocent. He said your only job is to see that their rights are protected in every possible way, at all costs.

I always get a chuckle out of criminal cases being filed as The People vs. Old So-and-So Wrongdoer. The actual welfare of "the people" went by the wayside long ago.

It is a sad fact that most folks who get arrested are connected in some way to — or have knowledge of — the offense for which they have been charged. Notice I didn't say always. Just mostly. And worse yet, the folks who are called to pass judgement on the person are never given a true, complete picture anyway. Like any good gossip-fest, the scenario of the crime as presented in court is going to have more holes in it than a hunk of Swiss cheese due to "inadmissible" evidence and will be hopelessly slanted by both sides. If justice is blind, as represented by the blind-folded lady holding the scales, it's only because nobody told her the whole story in unvarnished, objective detail.

But what is more likely to happen as a result of your responding so diligently to your jury summons is that you will likely never spend a moment sitting on an actual jury because the prosecution and the defense will

reach an agreement before a jury is actually empaneled. The weight, or threat, of the jury hammer will have been wielded. You will have been used as a pawn in the manipulative system that is as near to justice as our modern society is capable of producing.

There's a good bit of controversy in the news these days over jurors in the Michael Jackson child molestation trial profiting from their expo-

sure to the high-profile celebrity aspect of the case. Some of them are giving interviews, writing books, etc. I figure they are entitled to any profit they can make off of anyone dumb enough to spend time watching their interviews or to waste their money on a book they wrote. As for the wind-bags on TV talk shows who are concerned about the integrity of our jury system, they need to wake up and smell the coffee. Integrity fled

the scene long ago, right on the heels of justice and common sense.

As a law-abiding citizen, there's little you can do if the call to jury duty arrives, other than sacrifice your time, your effort and your body to become part of a hammer that does little to pound out real truth and justice.

The system needs fixing but it will take a hammer far greater than a jury of our peers to bring about that resolution.



Reyes Reports By U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes

Labor Day recognizes needs of working families

In El Paso and across the country, many

look forward to Labor Day as a three-day weekend or a chance to hold that late-summer barbeque. However, it's important to remember that this national holiday is about more than gatherings and vacation, it's about our nation's workforce and the needs of American working families.

El Paso's — and the nation's — workforce needs and deserves quality jobs with good wages, health care and retirement benefits that provide a good quality of life for workers and family members. Parents shouldn't have to work two or three jobs simply to put food on the table. Parents also need quality, affordable health insurance so their children can grow up healthy and they can retire comfortably.

Congress is currently debating potential changes to Social Security, which plays an important role in many Americans' retirement. Approximately 89,000 El Pasoans receive Social Security today, and in many cases it is their main form of retirement income. While I think it is important to strengthen Social Security, I do not think the Bush Administration's plan to alter Social Security by making private accounts

the centerpiece of the program is in the best interests of America's seniors and working families.

First of all, the Social Security trustees recently reported that the Social Security trust fund is solvent through at least 2041 so we do not need to change the program hastily. Moreover, if workers divert a portion of their Social Security contributions into private accounts, the Social Security trust fund would become insolvent sooner than currently estimated. Taxpayers would have to cover the shortfall to the tune of \$4.9 trillion over the first 20 years to ensure that older workers and current beneficiaries continue to receive their Social Security benefits. This is no way to strengthen a federal program that many working families across America rely on during their retirement.

Also, recently Congress passed and the president signed the Dominican Republic-Central American Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA), which is of concern to many workers in El Paso and across the country. DR-CAFTA will liberalize trade between the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Costa Rica and the United States. I voted against this bill and have concerns about not

only many provisions included in the bill, but the manner in which the Administration crafted the agreement.

My Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) colleagues and I reached out to the Administration to ensure that the agreement adequately addressed specific concerns of ours, such as workers' rights, the development of Central America and the environment. However, then-U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick did not respond to our concerns or seek the input of the CHC, despite our on-the-ground experience dealing with recent free-trade agreements. Now that CAFTA has been approved, I will keep a close watch on the effects the agreement has on the labor community.

The U.S. labor community is going through many changes right now, but the positive impact organized labor has on the fight for working families remains strong. Whether it is working for improved wages, stronger Social Security or quality health care, labor's voice carries weight on Capitol Hill and has positive effects in communities across the country. This Labor Day, as we enjoy the holiday with family and friends, we also reaffirm our commitment to the needs of American working families.

Write stuff

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank the El Paso County Library Friends of the Library, local and El Paso city sponsors, and volunteers with the 2005 Texas Reading Club Summer Reading Program held from June 1-July 30. The children participated in the summer activities including Board Game and Puzzle Wednesdays, Papier Mache Craft Day Fridays, Story Time in July and the Certificate Presentation on Aug. 4. It was wonderful to see the children, along with their parents, reading throughout their summer break. Story Hour will begin on Tuesday Sept. 6, 2005, and is held every Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. For more information please call 764-3635.

Manuela Gandara
Library Manager
El Paso County Library
Fabens

El Paso County's Board of Ethics looking for one honest citizen

By Guadalupe Silva
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — El Paso County has an opening on its Board of Ethics and is calling for applications to its nine-member body.

The County's Ethics Board is charged with the interpretation, implementation and enforcement of the County's Code of Ethics. The code consists of a set of standards of conduct for members of Commissioners Court, County department heads and employees, and members of committees, boards and commissions.

Applicants must be El Paso County residents. Elected officials or candidates for elected office, county employees or individuals in a position governed by the

County's Code of Ethics are not eligible to serve. Terms of office are for two years and current board members will conduct the selection process.

All interested individuals should submit an official application for commission to the Board of Ethics and a resume to Adrianna Enriquez in the Department of Human Resources, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, at 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 302, El Paso, Texas 79901. Applications can be mailed to the same address or faxed to (915) 546-8126. All applications must be received by Sept. 5, 2005 no later than 5 p.m.

The application can be obtained from <http://www.epcounty.com/ethics/> at the County Code of Ethics web site. For more information call Adrianna Enriquez at 546-2218.

WEST TEXAS COUNTY COURIER

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

Hispanic Heritage Month



Every year the month of September is dedicated to remembering the sacrifices and saluting the achievements Hispanic Americans have made for our country. It is a time for us to reflect on the sense of pride we share as Hispanics in our contributions, culture and accomplishments throughout history.

Hispanic Heritage Month, which Congress passed into law in 1988, provides a backdrop to recognize the many achievements Hispanics have made to our nation. In a country whose history is intertwined with Spain, Mexico and Latin America, and where diversity is what makes our nation great, Hispanics are an important group whose story tells of struggle, perseverance and triumph.

Many Americans, regardless of their ethnicity, have relatives who came to this country with little more than the clothes on their back. Like their fellow immigrants, Hispanics' pride and ambition has been woven into the fabric of America, from the days when cattle riders drove herds

across the vast Southwest frontier, to today's world in which bilingual business leaders participate in the global marketplace.

Hispanics have figured prominently in every aspect of our country's history, including business, science, the armed forces, medicine, the performing arts, government, sports and entertainment. The Hispanic business community is the fastest growing sector of the small-business economy. There are nearly one million Hispanic veterans in the United States. There is no greater example of the love Hispanics have for America than the 38 Congressional Medals of Honor that have been awarded to Hispanic Americans. These achievements and sacrifices are an integral part of the rich mosaic that makes up America.

Today, Hispanics are the fastest growing population group in America, totaling almost 30 million across the nation. By the year 2010, Hispanics will be the largest and youngest minority group in the United States. We should be optimis-

tic about the tremendous potential the future holds for us.

Hispanics historically have placed emphasis on the value and importance of solid education. It is part of our culture. In order to remain competitive, Hispanic parents realize that education is the key to success. That's why many parents make tremendous sacrifices to provide their children with the best education possible. We must continue to strive to teach our children so they will be prepared to lead our great nation in the next century.

As Americans, in order to move forward on the right path, we should look back and take stock of our rich and varied past. By knowing where we have come from, we will be better prepared for our common destiny. That is why I am proud to celebrate the influential role Hispanics have played and will continue to play in the growth of the United States of America. Adelante!

Two-day County Tobacco Sting uncovers sales to minors

EL PASO COUNTY — El Paso County Sheriff's Deputies cracked down on stores that sell cigarettes or tobacco products to children younger than 18 years of age on Aug. 17 and Aug. 23. Compliance inspections were made, followed by compliance testing. Reducing minor's access to tobacco products is the ultimate goal of this enforcement process.

An undercover officer accompanied a minor decoy, who was a member of the Sheriff's Explorers, into more than 80-permitted retail establishments to test for compliance with Health & Safety Code 161.082 (Sale of cigarettes or tobacco products to persons younger than 18 years of age prohibited: Proof of age required).

During the two-day operation Deputies conducted unannounced inspections. Approximately 80 percent of the retail establishments complied with state law.

"The El Paso County Sheriff's Office commends those retail establishments that were in full compliance. We obviously have some work ahead of us in educating some local establishments on the importance of obeying the law," said Sgt. Louie Medina, El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

The 16 establishments who failed the Tobacco Sting were cited with a class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500. The owners of the establishments may also lose their license to sell tobacco products if the State Comptroller's office decides to suspend the license.

The 16 Businesses that were cited for selling tobacco products to a minor were:

- Walgreen's # 3924 at 5900 N. Mesa
- Walgreen's #1982 at 3355 N. Yarbrough
- Blue Sage Supermarket at 3017

- McRae
- San Elizario Bakery at 11836 Glorietta Rd.
 - Running Bear Stations Inc at 601 Tigua Blvd.
 - C&R Gas Station #8 at 8500 Alameda Ave.
 - Tiendita Store at 8556 Alameda Ave #101
 - Good Time Store #44 at 9052 Alameda Ave.
 - Murphy USA #6704 at 9431 Montana Ave.
 - Circle K Foods Store # 890 at 11101 Montwood Dr
 - Murphy USA #6879 at 11701 Pebble Hills Blvd.
 - Quick Silver 66 at 4421 Montana Ave.
 - La Banana Store at 3582 Mark Jason Dr.
 - Desert Meadows Bakery Store at 3648 Desert Meadows Rd.
 - Country Boy Store #1 at 12496 Montana Ave

New Eastside library named for accomplished El Paso librarian

By Jack Galindo
Special to the Courier

EL PASO COUNTY — El Paso's newest Regional Library has been officially re-named the Esperanza Acosta Moreno Regional Branch Library in honor of the first Hispanic professional librarian from El Paso. The new library is currently under construction at 12600 Pebble Hills near the corner of Pebble Hills and Joe Battle.

The name was submitted along with many other entries during a recent contest held by the El Paso Public Library Association Board. The entries were judged, in July, by a panel of 14 people representing the library staff, the library board and the public at large. The name was chosen in part because of the contributions made by Ms. Moreno in her 42

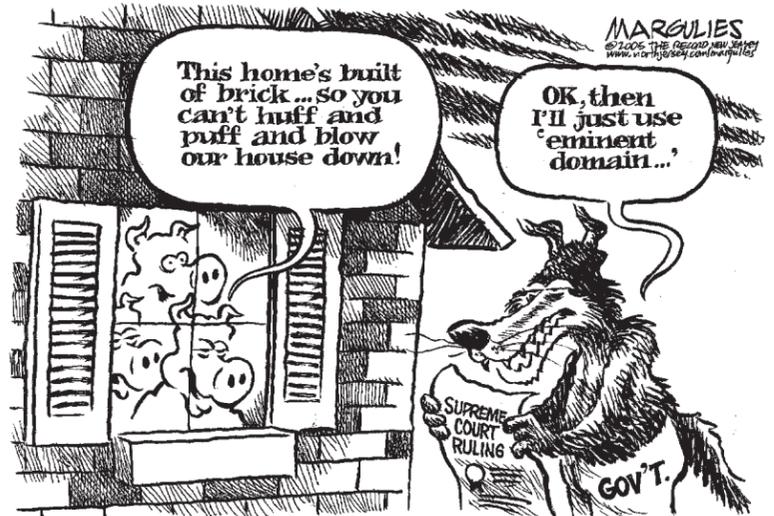
years of service to the El Paso community. Esperanza means hope in English and that is exactly what the new Esperanza Acosta Moreno Regional Branch Library will bring to the hundreds of thousands of people that will walk through its doors in the years to come.

Ms. Moreno was born on Dec. 23, 1932. She graduated from Austin High School and later UTEP with a Bachelors degree. She received her Masters degree in Library Science from the University of Illinois and went to work in Youngstown, Ohio upon graduation.

After three years in Ohio, she moved back to El Paso where she worked at a library in Ft. Bliss. In 1964 she started working for the Hotel Dieu School of Nursing where she invented a classification system that was adopted by the National Library of Medicine Classification System.

A tireless advocate for libraries throughout El Paso, Ms. Moreno became the first Hispanic woman to receive the Librarian of the Year Award from the Border Regional Library Association. She received the award again in 2000. She also was presented with the Distinguished Achievement Award for Service to Students from UTEP in 1992. She also served as a mentor to many librarians who currently serve the El Paso community.

Ms. Moreno was very active with the League of Women Voters and was instrumental in translating their voters guide to Spanish to encourage participation from the Hispanic community. She died in 2000 but her legacy lives on in the lives of the countless people that she touched during her 42 years of service to the El Paso community and as the namesake of a library that will continue to bring hope and inspiration to thousands.



True Texas by Roger T. Moore. Aug. 28, 1902: James Jarrott was shot near Lubbock allegedly because he was a homesteader on old "open range." But he was a lawyer and ex-legislator as well.

Briefs

From Page 1

investigating the city's fourth bank robbery for 2005. Last week an unknown suspect walked into



Surveillance photo of robbery suspect.

the Wells Fargo Bank located at 6175 Gateway West, approached the tellers and demanded money. He fled the scene with an undisclosed amount of cash. Described as a white male, mid 20's, six feet, three inches tall, thin build, clean shaven, last seen wearing a blue and green plaid dress shirt, blue jeans, black bandanna and dark sunglasses, the suspect fled the scene southbound from the bank in what investigators believe was

a 1990's model Honda Accord, light brown in color, unknown Texas license plates, no tint on the windows with damage to the front passengers side. Anyone having any information on this case is asked to call El Paso Police at 832-4400 or to remain anonymous and qualify for a cash reward can call Crime Stoppers at 566-8477(TIPS).

■ Volunteers and nominations for open positions on the Canutillo ISD District and Campuses Site-Based Management Committees are now being accepted for the 2005-2006 school year. Canutillo ISD welcomes individuals who are parents of enrolled students, persons who reside in the community, and business persons who have an interest in the Canutillo school district to be on these committees. Those willing to serve or wishing to nominate someone can contact the CISD public information office at 877-7482.

■ The Socorro ISD bowling team is looking for teachers and/or com-

munity members to join their team. Bowling will be every Friday at Bowl El Paso, 11144 Pellicano. The season goes through next May. Anyone interested should attend the first meeting, Thursday Sept. 8 at 5 p.m. at Bowl El Paso. For more information, contact Darlene Davis-Vares at 937-4440.

Ernesto Serna School will host their annual Fall Festival on Sept. 23 from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. There will be food, games, hayrides, a dunking booth and many other activities. Booths are available for \$10 plus 10 percent of booth profit. For more information, contact Sean Quintero at 937-4901.

■ The El Paso Hotel/Motel Association is accepting both individual and four-person team registrations for its Second Annual Golf Tournament, Sept. 9 at Painted Dunes Golf Course. Proceeds will benefit the Association's Scholarship Fund, which annually sends several local hospitality employees to the Conrad N. Hilton School of Hotel and Restaurant Management in Houston. For tournament regis-

tration or information: Neal Remz, 778-5287; Sandy Framer, 587-6527; Mike Becker, 588-7965; Mike Shoffit, 778-6411.

■ The Slider Performing Arts will be hosting an all-day theater camp on Saturday, Sept. 17 at William D. Slider Middle School for children ages four-14. The camp will consist of skit performance, mask making, pictures, theater games, stage makeup, puppets, juggling and dance finale. There will also be door prizes and awards. The cost is \$25 per child including a T-shirt and lunch. In order to receive a T-shirt, an application must be turned in by Friday, Sept. 2. Late registration will be Saturday Sept. 17 at 8 a.m. Those that pay at the door will receive their T-shirt at a later date. The camp will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., to conclude with a parent performance at 3:15 p.m. For more information, contact Sonja Kern at 937-5491.

■ The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has awarded the following three grants to the El Paso community according to Congressman Silvestre Reyes.

- \$68,900 to the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, for law enforcement activities, through the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services under the Tribal Resources Grant Program (TRGP), including hiring officers, purchasing basic equipment, procuring and implementing crime fighting technology, and training and technical assistance.

- \$8,139.25 to the City of El Paso and \$2,570.94 to El Paso County to purchase bullet-resistant vests, through the Fiscal Year 2005 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program within the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The program pays up to 50-percent of the cost of vests purchased.

■ The old Lower Valley Branch Library at 7915 San Jose Rd. in El Paso closed its doors for good on Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2005 at the end of the day, according to El Paso Public Library spokesman Jack Galindo. All materials and equipment will be packed and readied to move to the new Lower Valley Branch, located at 610 N. Yarbrough, on the corner of Yarbrough and San Paulo Dr., once it is completed. The new library is expected to open later this year. Materials will continue to be loaned until the closing date. Materials may be brought back to the branch after the closure or to any EPPL facility. A stop has been added to the bookmobile route to accommodate residents of the area. Beginning Aug. 30 and every other Tuesday after that, the

bookmobile will stop at the old building on San Jose from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. The new Lower Valley Branch Library, which is located close to Bel Air High School, is twice the size of the old library. It will be a modern state-of-the-art facility with a 20-station computer lab, a multi-purpose room with capacity for approximately 100 people, a private conference room, a quiet reading area, a book-store and a Teen Hangout area with special furniture, books, magazines, CD's, audio/visual equipment and other amenities especially for teens. The project was funded by the 2000 Quality of Life bond issue.

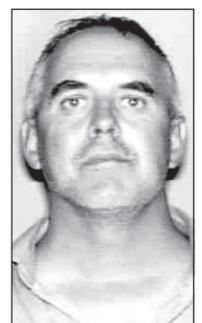
■ Detectives from the El Paso Police Department's Crimes Against Persons Unit (CAP) are attempting to locate 16-year-old Crystal Yvonne Arreola. The teenager did not return home from Paso Del Norte Academy, where she is a student, this past Friday.



Arreola

Arreola is a Hispanic female, five-feet, three-inches tall, 118 pounds, with black hair cut short on top and long in the back. Arreola was last seen wearing a light blue t-shirt, blue jeans and white tennis shoes — Nike brand with the pink swoosh. Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Arreola is asked to call EPPD dispatch at 832-4400 or 1-800-237-0797.

■ Detectives from the El Paso Police Department's Northeast



Welsh

Regional Command are asking for public assistance in locating a missing man. On July 5, 2005, 49-year old Jeffery Peter Welsh was last seen at his place of employment on Ft. Bliss. Welsh was known to commute from Juarez each day and since July 5 has had no contact with family, friends or his employer. Welsh is described as five feet, eight inches tall, 154 pounds, black hair with grey on the sides, and blue eyes. Welsh could be in the El Paso/Juarez area. Anyone that may have seen his is asked to call police immediately at 832-4400 or 1-800-237-0797.

Lower Valley Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Lower Valley District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2005 on September 15, 2005, 5:45 pm, at 1557 FM 1110, Clint, Texas 79836. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal:	Rosalinda Vigil, Raul Diaz, Alicia L. Fresquez and Henry Trujillo
AGAINST the proposal:	NONE
PRESENT and not voting:	NONE
ABSENT:	David Carrasco

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.256775/\$100 Adopted	0.244392/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ - 0.012383/\$100	
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)	- 4.82%	
Average appraised value	\$ 48,801	\$ 52,370
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled persons exemptions)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Average taxable value	\$ 48,647	\$ 52,238
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 124.91	\$ 127.66
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$ 2.75 2.20%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

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

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New law requires children to ride in safety seats longer

EL PASO COUNTY — Effective Sept. 1, 2005 a new law in Texas requires every child under the age of five or shorter than three feet tall to ride in a child safety seat, as opposed to current law which specifies children under the age of four or three feet tall.

This means that children who may already be out of car seats will have to again use an age/size appropriate booster seat.

The reason for the new law is due to national statistics that show that 83 percent of children between the ages of three and eight, who should be using car seats or belt-positioning booster seats, are being inappropriately graduated to an adult seat belt. Placing a child in a lap/shoulder belt before they are big enough can actually cause injury instead of preventing it.

For parents of children now legally required to ride in booster seats, or who are ready to move their children into a booster seat, a major child seat manufacturer, Graco Children's Products, offers the following tips:

- Explain to your child from an early age that when he/she is older, a booster seat will still be needed.

- Allow your child to be part of the decision

making process by letting him/her help in selecting his/her booster seat.

- Check your child's weight and height to ensure that he/she is placed in the proper size safety seat.

- When it is time to graduate to a booster seat, demonstrate to your child how the new seat will offer better protection than an adult seat belt. Remember that a child's age does not necessarily determine whether or not they should be in a booster seat. The easiest way to know if he/she needs to be in a booster seat is to ask these five simple questions:

- Does the child sit all the way back against the auto seat?

- Do the child's knees bend comfortably at the edge of the auto seat?

- Does the belt cross the shoulder between the neck and the arm?

- Is the lap belt as low as possible, touching the thighs?

- Can the child stay seated like this for the whole trip?

If the answer is no to any of these questions, he/she should be using a booster seat.

Canutillo ISD school board approves budget, tax rate

By Alfredo Vasquez
Special to the Courier

UPPER VALLEY — Canutillo Independent School District Board of Trustees approved a \$40.2 million budget for the 2005-2006 school year during a public meeting held Thursday, Aug. 25. This is a \$1.9 million increase compared to last year.

The Board voted to approve the administration's recommendation to decrease the Interest & Sinking (I&S) debt service by one half cent, from 24 cents to 23.5 cents. CISD's Maintenance & Operations tax rate is already at the state cap of \$1.50. Together, the new tax rate will be \$1.735 per \$100 of assessed property value.

The decrease in the debt service, which are the funds used to pay the school district's bonded indebtedness for facilities construction, was made possible because of the increase in property valuations in the district. This is a reflection of the higher priced homes that are being built in CISD, according to Tony Reza, CISD Comptroller.

"However, because of the increase in assessed property valuations, it increased tax bills of the average home by about \$226," Reza said. This coming year, the district tax bill for the owner of an average home of \$80,525 (minus a \$15,000 Homestead Exemption) will be about \$1,136 a year, compared to last year when the average home appraisal was \$67,285 with a tax bill of \$910 under the previous rate.

"CISD property valuations are currently outpacing the district's student enrollment growth, and as property values go up, state funding received goes down. This year, CISD will get approximately \$254,000 less in state funding than last year," Reza explained.

During a special board meeting in August, CISD Board approved a step increase, which is equivalent to a two percent increase or about \$600 for teachers, librarians, and nurses. It also approved a five percent pay raise for manual trades employees and a four percent pay hike for paraprofessional and auxiliary employees. Administrators received a one percent raise. In addition, CISD will continue to provide free health care insurance for all of its employees.

Town of Anthony Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Increase

Last year, the Town of Anthony's property tax rate was \$0.457707/100. That rate raised \$387,020, a portion of which was used to fund operations such as:

Maintenance and operations, debt service fund, street maintenance, wages, salaries, police protection and general fund.

This year, the Town of Anthony is proposing a property tax rate of \$0.474686. That rate would raise \$408,223, which is \$21,203 more than taxes imposed last year.

There will be two public hearings to consider that increase. The first public hearing will be held on **Friday, September 9, 2005, 10:00 a.m.** at 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821. The second public hearing will be held on **Friday, September 16, 2005, 10:00 a.m.** at 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821.

You have a right to attend the hearings and make comments. You are encouraged to attend and make comments if you wish.

Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2005 on September 22, 2005, 6:00 pm, at 1539 Pawling Dr., Horizon City, Texas 79928. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

FOR the proposal:	Ken Osmond, Bonnie Moorhouse, Lillard Thompson, Florence Thomas and John Navidomskis
AGAINST the proposal:	NONE
PRESENT and not voting:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 value)	0.468693/\$100	0.468693/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.00/\$100
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)		0.00%
Average appraised value	\$ 77,548	\$ 82,566
General exemptions available	0.00	0.00
(excluding senior citizen's or disabled persons exemptions)		
Average taxable value	\$ 77,548	\$ 82,566
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 363.46	\$ 386.98
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		\$23.52
and percentage of increase (+/-)		6.47%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ROLLBACK ELECTION

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

Dwight Gooden: A long sad story of extremes

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

There have been numerous professional athletes who excelled on the field but didn't have a clue how to exist off it.

Few, however, have mastered the embarrassing art of manufacturing staggering amounts of assorted malfeasance better than former major league baseball pitcher Dwight Gooden.

Gooden came up as a 19-year old phenom with the New York Mets in 1984. As a teenager, Gooden was the toast of professional baseball, winning 17 games and striking out 276 batters in his 218 innings of work.

Not bad for a wide-eyed rookie.

Gooden followed his Rookie-of-the-Year season with a phenomenal Cy Young award-winning 1985, going 24-4, throwing eight shutouts, striking out 268 batters and recording a 1.53 earned run average.

For eight incredible seasons, Dwight Gooden had "Hall-of-Fame inductee" written all over him. During that first eight-year stretch in the majors, Gooden won 132 games and lost just 53 — a .714 winning percentage.

It appeared there was nothing that would stand in his way.

Except, of course, himself.

It isn't much of a secret that Gooden has had as much of a thirst for cocaine as he had for throwing a baseball. He also has had a knack for beating up women. You know what I mean, a real lady-killer kind of a guy.

Anyway, seems Gooden hasn't learned much since his retirement from the game after the 2000 season.

Gooden made news earlier this year when he was arrested for domestic battery evidently mistaking his live-in girlfriend's face for a piñata. Then, last week, he was stopped by a police officer while driving erratically at about 2:40 in the morning.

Gooden stopped his vehicle like a law-abiding citizen.

But the words "law-abiding citizen" and "Dwight Gooden" have absolutely no business whatsoever being anywhere near each other in the same sentence.

Gooden refused to get out of the vehicle but did hand

the officer his driver's license. As the officer began to check it out, Gooden floored it and sped away into the night in his 2004 BMW.

After about three days of hiding from police Gooden finally turned himself in to the authorities and will be held behind bars without bail until his hearing, which is scheduled for October 25.

Wow, what a true moron. Maybe it is true what they say about the more drugs that enter your body, the more brain cells depart.

After that magnificent 132-53 start over the first half of his career, Gooden was just 62-59 (.512) over his next eight seasons, splitting time between the dugout bench and the jail cell bench.

But this isn't really about baseball, or stats, or the hall of fame, or the Mets, or money, or the police.

It's about a human life and the other human lives it touches. In fact, maybe the saddest news of all are the consequences Gooden's actions have taken on his family. Case in point, Gooden now joins his 19-year-old son, Dwight Jr., already in jail.

Gooden's son was arrested earlier this month for violating his probation on a cocaine possession conviction and faces additional charges after police said they found marijuana and bullets in his car parked outside a nightclub.

And I bet you thought that "like father like son" adage was just a cute little saying your parents made up.

It didn't take Gooden long to begin throwing everything away.

His troubles began as early as 1986, when he got into a fight with police, then there was that 28-day stint in drug rehab in 1987, a 60-day suspension for drugs in 1994, a season-long suspension in 1995, a 2002 conviction for reckless driving, and this year's arrest for domestic battery and running from the police after the DUI stop.

At one time considered the best pitcher since the legendary Bob Gibson, Gooden is now a shallow, beaten, almost insignificant ghost of a man. If he were a cat, he might watch every step he takes very closely from now on, because he is quickly running out of lives, and opportunities to save his life.

And no one, absolutely no one, can do it for him.

Canutillo ISD's back to school basketball tourney a success

By Kim Guzman
Special to the Courier

CANUTILLO — Canutillo Independent School District's first annual Drug-Free Back to School 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament was a huge success. Nearly 200 boys and girls played all day Saturday for various prizes.

The tournament featured four age divisions: 8-9; 10-12; 13-14; and 15-17 years of age. Prizes were given to first, second, and third place teams from each division. Prizes included backpacks, t-shirts, calculators, school boxes and other school supplies. An estimated 150 parents, family members, and friends were on hand to cheer for their favorite teams.

The tournament was sponsored by CISD's Project Link Program, a federal grant that provides after-school, summer, and extracurricular activities for youth in the community to reduce violence and substance abuse. The summer basketball camps held June 3 through July 29 were highly successful at the district's elementary campuses. As a result of that success, Project Link added the Drug Free 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament.

"Due to the generous donations of area businesses; successful events like this will continue to be provided for our youth in the future," said Jose Escobedo, coordinator for Project Link, who spearheaded the event along with staff members.

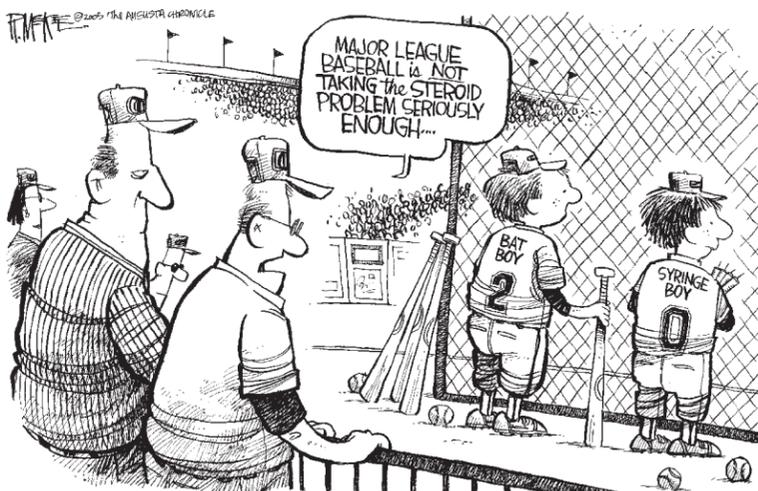
"I would personally like to thank our 14 staff members, Sam Garcia,



— Photo courtesy Canutillo ISD

HOOKED ON HOOPS — Supporters helped make Canutillo ISD basketball tournament a success. Jose Escobedo, Project Link coordinator for CISD, accepts a \$500 check from Randy Hicks, store manager at Wal-Mart on North Mesa.

Alfredo Vasquez, Wal-Mart, Office Depot, and Price's Creameries for their contributions in making this family event very successful," Escobedo said.



Classified Ads

LEGAL

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2005

COMPUTER ROOM AID CONDITIONER SYSTEM CSP NO. 199-0906-0653 ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

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SPECIAL SYSTEM SUPPLIES CSP NO. 199-0906-0624RB ACCEPTED UNTIL 3:00 P.M.

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

through Fridays and on the Socorro Independent School District's website: www.sisd.net. WTCC-09/01/05

SOCORRO ISD

Notice of Vacancy on Board of Trustees

Notice is hereby given that Trustee District No. 2 is Vacant. All registered voters who are residents of Trustee No. 2 and who are interested in being considered to be a member of the Board of Trustees may submit letters of interest to the Superintendent's Office (12300 Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928) by close of business on September 7, 2005. The letter of interest should provide any information which the applicant believes would assist the Board of Trustees in consideration to fill the vacancy. The Board of Trustees currently expects to fill the vacancy on or before September 20, 2005 but may extend the date for decision. For further information please contact:

Vicki Icard
at 937-0090
vicard@sisd.net

12300 Eastlake Dr.
El Paso, Texas 79928-5400
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Informacion: 838-6264.

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Classes Begin Aug. 29 & Sept. 26

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SELF-HELP

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

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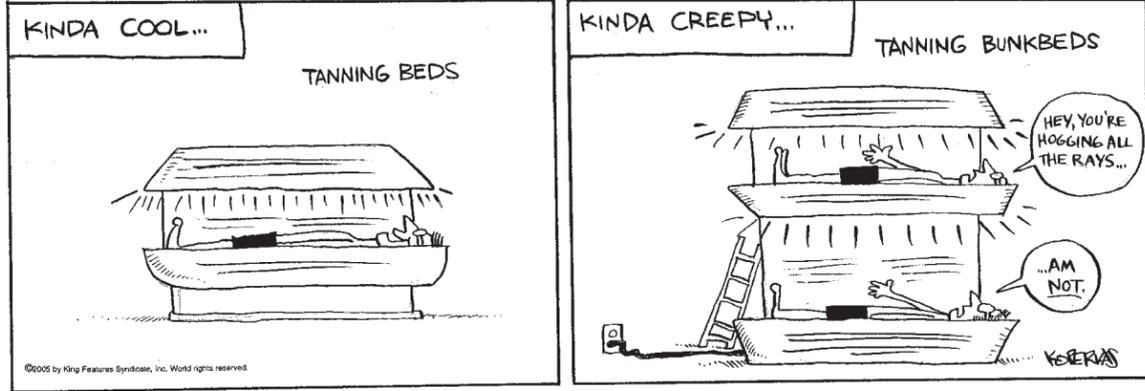
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Comix

OUT ON A LIMB By Gary Kopervas



AMBER WAVES By Dave T. Phipps



THE SPATS By Jeff Pickering



R.F.D. By Mike Marland



Personality test proved very unlikable

By Don Flood

"How Likable Are You?" the test asked.

It was like an SAT, only with more at stake.

I consider myself likable. And I should know. I spend 24 hours a day with myself, and I've come to realize that, good times or bad, I'll always be there for myself.

The test asked you to rate yourself from zero to 10 in different behavior categories, with zero being "never" and 10 being "daily."

The first part related to likability. "I smile and have a pleasant tone of voice."

You mean like every day? Every year, sure. Every month, probably. Some weeks are better than others.

"I maintain a positive, optimistic attitude even when things are going badly." Yes, I do. It's when things are going well that I start to worry.

"People tell me their problems because I am approachable and a good listener." Finally, one I could give myself a good score for.

Not only am I an incredibly good listener, I am willing to sit down and take the time to really understand people's problems and empathize with them.

It's not something I can take credit for. It just seems I was born with an extra quart — or perhaps a gallon — of the milk of human kindness flowing through my veins.

Naturally, there's a limit to this sort of thing. My personal limit is three seconds. After that, I'm ready to slap somebody silly.

Which is a good thing, because if you're going to sit there and listen to people drone on and on about their ridiculous, unimportant little

problems — for seven, eight, even 10 seconds — then you're no longer helping them. You've become an enabler.

Far better to cut them off with a compassionate and sensitive "Shut up already!" than to let them continue wallowing in a sea of self-pity. (Trust me, they'll thank you for it later. And if they don't, they can drop dead.)

"Others see me as honest, trustworthy and sincere." Yes, particularly the gullible sort who believe what I'm saying.

"I am sensitive and understanding of other people's feelings." Here we go with the touchy-feely stuff again. Sure, why not?

The second part of the test asked you to rate unlikability.

"Others have said that they think I am self-centered." I don't know, maybe. Who listens?

"I get distracted when listening to others." Not anymore. I am able to tune people out completely, so becoming distracted from my thoughts is no longer a problem.

"I am critical and intolerant of others." Virtually never, except of course of all those fatheads you meet everywhere.

The actual scoring seemed highly unfair. Even with some perfectly understandable fudging of the truth in several categories, such as those relating to honesty and sincerity, I still scored a minus 37, which put me just behind Attila the Hun and the Wicked Witch of the West and just ahead of Bill O'Reilly.

If I weren't such a doggone likable guy, I'd find whoever developed this test and punch him in the nose.

(c) 2005 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Super Crossword

DELAYED REACTION ACROSS

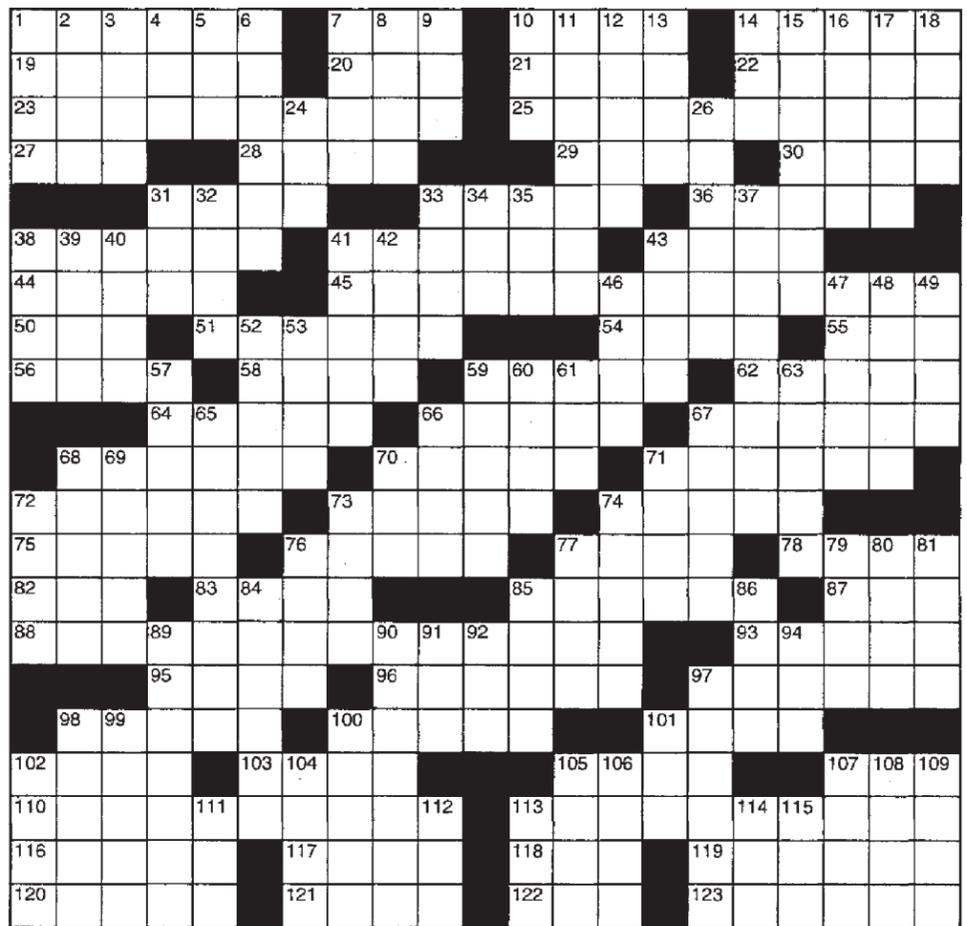
- 1 Writer Susan
- 7 AAA handout
- 10 Explorer Tasman
- 14 Checker move?
- 19 Carry too far
- 20 Winter hazard
- 21 Creme _ creme
- 22 Kunta _ ("Roots" character)
- 23 Start of a remark by Steven Wright
- 25 Patrician
- 27 Canadian prov.
- 28 Victim
- 29 Wool gatherer?
- 30 Roll-call reply
- 31 Level
- 33 Entire range
- 36 Put up with
- 38 Thick stick
- 41 Put aside
- 43 Blind part
- 44 See 11 Down
- 45 Part 2 of remark
- 50 It may get flipped
- 51 Connecticut town
- 54 Summit
- 55 Live and breathe
- 56 Mighty mite
- 58 Sausage segment
- 59 Long Island resort
- 62 Tel Aviv teacher
- 64 Out of the way
- 66 Beak
- 67 One way to park

- 68 Tranquil
- 70 Part 3 of remark
- 71 Kukla or Lamb
- Chop
- 72 Ill will
- 73 Cherbourg
- chapeau
- 74 Glee
- 75 _ a Symphony"
- 76 Submarine finder
- 77 Competitors
- 78 Facilitate a felony
- 82 _ Tin Tin
- 83 Paradise
- 85 Merchant
- 87 Cal. page
- 88 Part 4 of remark
- 93 Over
- 95 Jai -
- 96 Sounds the tocsin
- 97 Ullman or Gold
- 98 Goatish gamboler
- 100 Bar hop?
- 101 Dr. Scholl's
- concern
- 102 Source
- 103 Cardinal
- 105 _ Flynn Boyle
- 107 Mil. training ctr.
- 110 African capital
- 113 End of remark
- 116 Jazzman Chick
- 117 Forehead
- 118 Organ of equilibrium
- 119 Steak or lobster
- 120 Abrasive

- substance
 - 121 _ forgive those . .
 - "
 - 122 Be too interested?
 - 123 Arid area
- ## DOWN
- 1 Manhattan district
 - 2 Hot spot?
 - 3 Frog's kin
 - 4 Singing syllable
 - 5 They may be
 - personal
 - 6 Mahalia's music
 - 7 Pixie and Dixie
 - 8 _ Breaky Heart"
 - (92 hit)
 - 9 Princess bruiser
 - 10 Orthodontists' org.
 - 11 With 44 Across, salad veggie
 - 12 "Silas Marner" author
 - 13 Endure
 - 14 Ring stat
 - 15 Kansas city
 - 16 "The Lady _" ('79 film)
 - 17 Gawk
 - 18 French bean?
 - 24 Fancy vase
 - 26 A Muse
 - 31 Inflatable item?
 - 32 Sell
 - 33 Continue
 - 34 Circle section
 - 35 "Mal de _"
 - 37 Impoverished

- 38 Fountain order
- 39 Component
- 40 Carthaginian
- queen
- 41 Book part
- 42 Travel with
- Spock?
- 43 _ aerobics
- 46 Rotisserie part
- 47 Defer
- 48 NASA lap
- 49 Equine accessory
- 52 Skirt shape
- 53 Coney Island attraction
- 57 Ballet's Tallchief
- 59 Actress Stevens
- 60 Santa's problem
- 61 Destiny
- 63 Dominant, as a dog
- 65 On the sly
- 66 Doris Day refrain
- 67 Wrinkle
- 68 Master, in Madras
- 69 '85 John Malkovich movie
- 70 Barnyard belle
- 71 Mottled
- 72 Sorvino or Nair
- 73 _ fide
- 74 Complains
- 76 Big rig
- 77 Lute feature
- 79 Coll. hotshot
- 80 Roof part
- 81 Playing card
- 84 TV's _ & Greg"

- 85 "Comin' _ the Rye"
- 86 Half-baked?
- 89 More squalid
- 90 Heavenly sight
- 91 Alphabet sequence
- 92 Network
- 94 Try for a hit
- 97 Provoked
- 98 Biblical city
- 99 Pianist Watts
- 100 Fishermen, frequently
- 101 Auber's _ Diavolo"
- 102 Confront
- 104 Swedish rockers
- 105 Last name in limericks
- 106 Crooked
- 107 Grimm creature
- 108 "Moonstruck" star
- 109 Dele a dele
- 111 Utter
- 112 Blow away
- 113 Drill sergeant's shout
- 114 Compass pt.
- 115 _ Not Unusual" ('65 hit)



Answer Page 6

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Social Security marks seven decades of service

EL PASO COUNTY — Social Security marks its 70th anniversary this month. For seven decades now, it has protected our elderly against poverty and assured young people of a more secure future.

Since the program's inception, many exciting changes have taken place in the world around us. Look at the innovations, for example, in the music industry. Over the last 70

years, we've gone from juke boxes to records, eight tracks, cassettes, CDs and now mp-3s. And, the transformations that have occurred in medicine or technology are astounding. Similarly, Social Security has evolved.

Social Security originally was envisioned as a program for retired workers. Since 1935, the program has evolved to one that now covers the

families of both retired and deceased workers as well as those who can no longer work due to a disability. Social Security is the foundation of financial security for almost every American family through its valuable package of retirement, disability and survivors insurance.

Today, our parents and grandparents can feel confident their benefits are secure. However, the Social Security system is facing serious future financing problems. The main reason for Social Security's long-range financing challenge is demographics. The news is good — we are living longer and healthier lives than ever before. When the Social Security pro-

gram was created in 1935, a 65-year-old American had an average life expectancy of 12 and a half more years; today, it is 17 and a half years and rising.

However, this good news also means a strain on Social Security's finances. In just a few years, 78 million "baby boomers" will begin retiring, and in about 30 years, there will be twice as many older Americans as there are today. At the same time, the number of workers paying into Social Security per beneficiary will drop from 3.3 today to about two in 2031.

As we celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Social Security, let us recog-

nize that like music, medicine and technology, Social Security has evolved through the decades to meet the challenges before it. It is important that we address these issues to ensure Social Security continues to provide a foundation of protection for future generations.

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

7-DAY FORECAST FOR EL PASO, TX

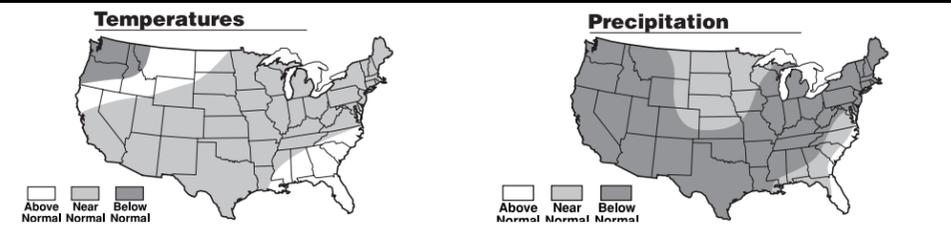
AccuWeather.com®

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Mostly sunny	Partly cloudy	Sunshine	Sunny to partly cloudy	A p.m. t-storm possible	Mostly sunny	Sunny	Mostly sunny
93°	67°	91° 65°	90° 66°	91° 67°	90° 68°	90° 67°	90° 64°
RealFeel 97°	RealFeel 64°	RealFeel 89° 63°	RealFeel 88° 64°	RealFeel 89° 65°	RealFeel 96° 68°	RealFeel 97° 66°	RealFeel 96° 66°

The patented RealFeel Temperature® is AccuWeather's exclusive index of the effects of temperature, wind, humidity, sunshine, precipitation, and elevation on the human body.

WEATHER TRENDS THIS WEEK

IN THE SKY



Sun	Rise	Set	Moon	Rise	Set	New	First
Thu.	6:41 a.m.	7:30 p.m.	Thu.	4:37 a.m.	6:45 p.m.		
Fri.	6:42 a.m.	7:28 p.m.	Fri.	5:34 a.m.	7:14 p.m.	9/3	9/11
Sat.	6:42 a.m.	7:27 p.m.	Sat.	6:30 a.m.	7:41 p.m.	Full	Last
Sun.	6:43 a.m.	7:26 p.m.	Sun.	7:26 a.m.	8:06 p.m.		
Mon.	6:44 a.m.	7:24 p.m.	Mon.	8:21 a.m.	8:31 p.m.	9/17	9/25
Tues.	6:44 a.m.	7:23 p.m.	Tues.	9:17 a.m.	8:57 p.m.		
Wed.	6:45 a.m.	7:22 p.m.	Wed.	10:15 a.m.	9:25 p.m.		

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REGIONAL CITIES

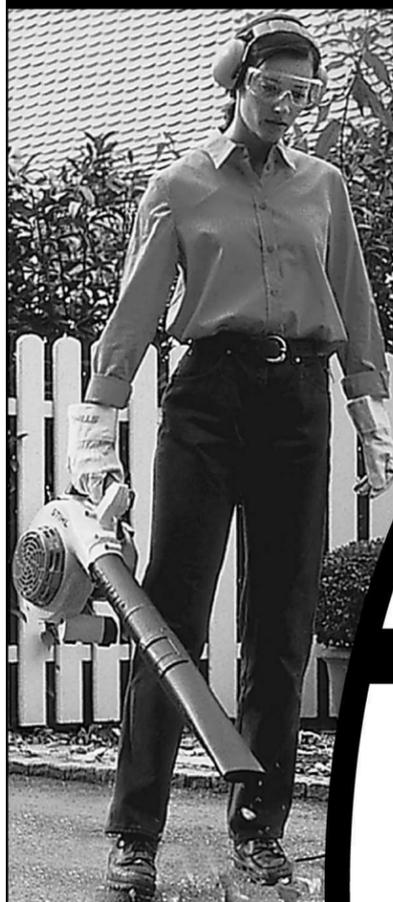
U.S. CITIES

City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday			City	Thursday			Friday			Saturday			Sunday		
	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W		HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W	HI	LO	W
Abilene, TX	97	71	s	98	69	s	98	70	s	94	68	s	Atlanta	89	67	s	87	66	s	84	65	s	83	64	s
Albuquerque, NM	86	62	s	84	62	t	82	62	t	82	62	t	Boston	82	64	t	82	58	s	78	58	s	75	59	s
Amarillo, TX	90	61	s	88	63	s	91	61	s	87	59	s	Chicago	80	58	pc	78	58	s	78	58	s	80	60	pc
Austin, TX	98	70	s	100	70	s	101	68	s	96	68	s	Denver	84	54	s	82	56	s	84	56	s	84	54	s
Brownsville, TX	95	76	s	98	76	s	98	76	s	94	74	s	Detroit	80	58	pc	78	58	s	78	58	s	76	56	s
Dodge City, KS	87	60	s	85	60	pc	85	61	pc	86	58	s	Houston	98	74	s	97	74	s	96	71	s	96	70	s
Jackson, MS	93	68	s	93	68	s	89	64	s	89	65	s	Indianapolis	82	57	pc	81	58	s	77	56	s	79	58	s
Laredo, TX	100	75	s	100	75	s	100	75	s	98	75	s	Kansas City	84	60	s	84	62	pc	88	62	s	85	64	pc
Little Rock, AR	96	68	s	89	66	s	89	65	s	90	67	pc	Los Angeles	83	64	pc	83	64	pc	83	64	pc	82	64	pc
Lubbock, TX	92	63	s	94	63	s	94	63	s	94	63	s	Miami	92	77	t	90	77	t	89	78	t	89	77	t
Memphis, TN	94	68	s	87	67	s	86	68	s	87	68	pc	Minneapolis	78	54	s	76	56	s	76	60	s	80	58	pc
Midland, TX	93	68	s	93	67	s	93	68	s	94	67	s	New Orleans	94	76	s	93	76	s	91	73	s	91	72	s
Pueblo, CO	87	54	t	88	54	s	88	52	t	87	54	s	New York City	86	70	pc	84	68	s	80	66	s	77	63	s
Roswell, NM	94	64	s	94	64	s	94	62	s	94	62	s	Omaha	84	56	s	84	58	pc	86	60	s	82	60	s
St. Louis, MO	86	63	s	84	62	s	83	61	s	82	63	pc	Phoenix	106	82	s	106	83	s	106	80	s	102	80	s
San Antonio, TX	97	74	s	97	74	s	97	74	s	96	74	s	San Francisco	75	57	pc	72	56	pc	72	56	pc	74	57	s
Texarkana, AR	98	71	s	95	68	s	91	66	s	90	67	pc	Seattle	74	54	pc	74	54	pc	70	54	pc	68	52	sh
Waco, TX	100	73	s	101	73	s	101	70	s	95	67	s	Washington	89	69	pc	86	66	s	84	64	s	83	62	s
Wichita, KS	90	63	s	89	66	pc	87	65	pc	86	63	pc													

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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