



NEWSBRIEFS

Closed

The West Texas County Courier is closed. It will open again on Monday, Oct. 8, 2007.

Honor Society

On 27 September at 6:30 p.m. in the Americas High School auditorium, eligible students from grades 10, 11, and 12 who have met all the criteria for the National Honor Society (NHS) will have a formal induction ceremony. Students are considered for NHS based on their Scholarship, Leadership, Character and Service. Parents and community are invited to attend this program. The sponsors of NHS for the 2007-2008 school year are Ms. LaMarr Brack and Ms. Roseanne Lara.

College workshop

Parents and students are invited to attend a "Paying For College Workshop" that will be held at 6 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27, in the Canutillo High School Theater. Participants will discover how to get an edge on paying for college by learning the ins and outs of financing higher education. The workshop, presented by GECU, will provide students and parents the facts about the costs of higher education and what they need to know about grants, scholarships and student loans. The seminar is open to the public but seating is limited. For more information contact Jaismin at 774-1715, or email at Jaismin.Pasillas@gecu-ep.org.

New club

An Optimist Club is being organized in Clint. More members are needed to meet chartering requirements. There are presently 18 Optimist clubs in the El Paso area. They are affiliated with Optimist International. These clubs have as their motto: "friend of youth." Optimist clubs provide youth-oriented activities such as oratorical and essay contests, baseball, football and basketball leagues as well as a Respect for Law program. If you are interested in working with youth in the new Clint Optimist Club, contact Police Chief Alex Sanchez at 637-4020 or town clerk Fabiola Ochoa at 851-3146.

Defensive driving

AARP will be offering a defensive driving course at the Oz Glaze Senior Center, 13969 Veny in Horizon City. The class will be held on Monday, Oct. 1 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost is \$10 and the class can be used for an insurance discount. Info: 852-0062.

Golf tourney

Canutillo Alumni Foundation for Education (CAFÉ) has scheduled its Fourth Annual Golf Tournament for Friday, Nov. 2 at the Underwood Golf Complex, Fort Bliss. The Four Person Scramble will have a shotgun start at 12 p.m. Proceeds are for Canutillo High School Scholarships. For information, call 740-8366; 276-2073 or 877-7481.

Scientists are working on the ultimate economy car. It will just sit in the driveway and impress the neighbors.

— Quips & Quotes



— Photos By Stacy Kendrick/SISD

CUSTOM MADE — Socorro HS students built this portable cabin from the ground up.

Socorro HS students complete 'Texas Bunkhouse'

By Irma Flores
Special to the Courier

When parents of some Socorro High School students asked "What did you do at school today?" For some of them the answer was "Built a log cabin." They nicknamed the project the "Texas Bunkhouse". For two years, a group of students worked together to craft the cabin. Drafting students designed it, welding students constructed the frame, it was wired by electrical students and carpentry students did all the woodwork, including rustic pine knot flooring. Media technology students videotaped the entire process.

Their hard work paid off earlier this year when they completed the one-bedroom, one-bath log cabin. Some of the students were sophomores and freshmen when the project started in 2005, like senior Manuel Calderon who remembers spending his days working on the cabin during El Paso's hot summer.

"It was hard work, but we enjoyed it," says the 17-year-old. "This project really helped us expand our skills. I am really proud of our work. We showed that we can do this if we work hard."

Calderon worked on the cabin's inside walls, siding, cabinets and porch. Joining the project last year was junior Daniel Tellez who joined the Building Trades class his sophomore year to develop his building skills.

"I wanted to do something more challenging," says Tellez who had been doing wood-working since middle school. "For this project, I worked on the roof, cabinets, the tile in the kitchen and installing the air conditioners. I

hope this will help me find a career in construction when I graduate."

In addition to learning about roofing and installing tile, the students also had to do some problem solving to get the job done.

"Sometimes we didn't have the right products, but the students used what we had and adapted them to work for our project. We also had to learn how to make our own color stain for the wood," says John Kilgore, Advanced Building Trades Instructor. "I was impressed with what these kids accomplished. The cabin turned out better than I imagined."

Horizon residents going home from work or just driving down Eastlake Drive will see an unusual sight the week of Sept. 17. The log cabin will be sitting in front of the Socorro ISD central offices. Students in the Socorro ISD Career and Technology program made a special presentation to the Board of Trustees on Sept. 18. Trustees will be among the first to tour the 12 by 32 foot log cabin. Students who worked on the project will be on hand to give tours of the one-bedroom, one-bath cabin, while culinary arts students will provide snacks for visitors during the tour.

Allen Long, Director of Career and Technology says there are plans to auction the 384 square foot cabin. Auction details will be published as soon as they become available. The cabin was opened to the public on Wednesday, Sept. 19 and Thursday, Sept. 20. Long says he plans to take the cabin and students to the annual home show that takes places at the Judson F. Williams Convention Center in December. For more information or details about the cabin, please call Allen Long at 937-0303.



MOVEABLE COMFORT — The "Texas Bunkhouse" can be hauled on its custom frame.

Texas' immunization rate drop concerns TMA physicians

By Brent Anear
Special to the Courier

More Texas children are at risk of contracting disease than before, according to the just-released 2006 National Immunization Survey. Texas Medical Association (TMA) physician leaders are voicing concern that Texas fell to 34th nationally in immunizing children ages 19 months to 35 months.

"This is tragic — Texas needs to start going in the right direction. With low immunization rates Texas will see a comeback of once-rare diseases, and we will be victims of our past success," said Jaime Fergie, MD, advisor for TMA's "Be Wise — Immunize" SM vaccination program. "It's unfortunate that parents don't think about the danger of childhood diseases because of how well immunizations work, but it's dangerous to let our guard down." Dr. Fergie specializes in treating pediatric infectious diseases in Corpus Christi.

Texas' 2006 vaccination rate of 74.7 percent dropped the state to 34th place from its 24th-place spot in 2005. Texas vaccinated 76.8 percent of its youngest children in 2005. The 2.1 percent rate decrease led to the 10-place fall.

Texas' low child immunization rates inspired TMA physicians to create the "Be Wise — Immunize" program three years ago. The program produced landmark results in 2005. Texas physicians and TMA Alliance members (civic-minded physician-members' spouses) administered more than 25,000 shots to Texas children that year. The program contributed to Texas' surge from 41st in 2004 to the 24th-place score in 2005. In 2005, Texas also rose above the national average for the first time since the survey began in 1994. In the latest survey, Texas fell back below the 77 percent national average rate of child immunization.

"Complete vaccination is complete protection," said Dr. Fergie, noting that patients not completing their vaccine series is part of the reason why Texas immunization rates remain low. For example, the fourth dose of the vaccine for diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTaP) is recommended before a child turns 19 months of age. Ensuring parents follow through continues to be the biggest challenge to increasing vaccine coverage levels, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. "It's a shame that some parents don't take full advantage of opportunities to vaccinate their child, or start to and then don't complete the vaccine series," added Dr. Fergie. He notes that patients are not fully protected if they do not complete the recommended series.

In three years, "Be Wise — Immunize" program participants, TMA Alliance members, county medical societies, and community coalitions have given more than 90,000 shots to Texas children. Funded by TMA's philanthropic arm, the TMA Foundation, the program is able to provide physicians and volunteers important resources for hosting weekend or after-hour clinics. "Immunization programs like Be Wise have contributed a great deal to the overall education and awareness of the importance of immunizations," said Dr. Fergie. "Such programs have done well for Texas patients, but we have more work to do."



One perspective

By Francis Shrum

Children who dance

One of the wonderful things about little kids is they don't care one bit about what other people think.

Lack of inhibition can be a little boorish in adults, but when we see it in kids it gives us an opportunity to remember what it was like to simply be ourselves.

This is especially true when it comes to dancing.

There's a popular saying these days that we should "dance like no one is watching." That's pretty much how kids dance, even if they know someone is watching.

In 1909, German Expressionist artist Emil Nolde painted an entrancing image entitled *Wildly Dancing Children*. They appear to be mostly girls, with flying hair and dresses as they jump in a circle, hands clasped. The lack of clarity and detail in expressionistic art can sometimes be a little frustrating for a realist like myself but this painting somehow captures the freedom and spirit of kids just having a good time.

I like to watch other people's kids dancing ballet, and folklorico, and African kids doing their native dances are downright adorable.

Better still, though, are photos and memories of those that are your own. I've got a snapshot of my second

grandson dancing at a dress-up function when he was two. He's really getting down, out there on the dance floor all by himself, alone in his enjoyment of the music.

Now that he's six, he likes to dance with me.

I don't know how long this is going to last, but I'll ride this pony as long as it'll run.

Another good thing is, he's pretty good at it.

He was with me recently at a rodeo which was followed by a dance. I was undecided as to whether I wanted to stay up for it or whether I was going to do the wise thing and just go on home to bed.

So I asked him what he wanted to do. "Let's go to the dance, Granny," he said. "I like to dance."

That's all it took.

"Me, too," I said.

The dance was in this big, dusty county fair barn, with poor acoustics and some picnic tables set up around the edges for spectators. The music was pretty good, as country bands go who play for county fairs. They don't have a record contract but nobody at this dance cares about that.

So we went in and coughed up our admission and the girl at the door put paper bands around our wrists as our receipt. He was real proud of his band

since he didn't get one at the rodeo because he was underage and I didn't have to pay for him.

As soon as the band tuned up he tugged on my hand.

"C'mon, Granny, let's dance," he said.

The only problem with dancing with a young man that is only slightly higher than your waist is that he's supposed to be leading but he can't see around you. After I danced backward into a friendly couple sitting on a bench, I started keeping a closer eye on where we were going.

There is no place on earth where kids get dirtier or enjoy themselves more than at the rodeo grounds. He was so dusty already that his eyes and mouth stood out in marked contrast to his face.

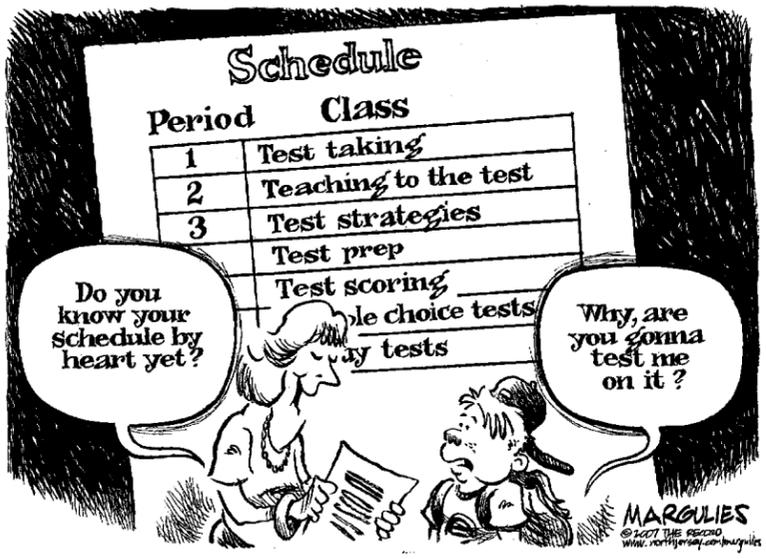
He gamely held onto my belt loop and we went the rounds to several songs, but I noticed that his bootscoot was becoming more of a bootshuffle, and his bright eyes were getting more droopy with every pass around the floor.

After awhile we unrolled a sleeping bag under one of the tables and he laid down on it. Within seconds, my dancing partner had deserted me for dream-land.

I grew up dancing with people of all sizes, shapes, sex and age. I danced with my parents, sisters, brothers, girl-cousins, boy-cousins, aunts, uncles and friends. I think it is a loss to our society if children aren't exposed to community events in which people of all ages gather to have a good time. It's a shame if they grow up thinking that dancing is something you do after you are old enough to look cool and only with the best looking people your own age.

There will come a time in my grandson's life when I won't be his first choice as a dancing partner, which is perfectly understandable, and by then, I'll probably be glad because I won't be able to keep up with him anyway.

For this moment, though, as I looked at his dusty boots protruding from beneath the table, so much bigger than they were even as little as a month ago, I couldn't help but think how glad I am to be around children who dance.



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

AD DEADLINE: Monday 4 p.m. for Thursday publication.

CLASSIFIED RATES \$5 for 15 words, \$10 for 35 words. Ad must be in writing and pre-paid. The Courier reserves the right not to print classified advertising it considers inappropriate.

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OFFICE: 14200 Ashford
MAIL: 15344 Werling Ct. Horizon City, TX 79928

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

Publisher
Rick Shrum

Business Manager
Francis D. Shrum

Contributors
Don Woodyard
Steve Escajeda
Arleen Beard • Jan Engels

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Por la Gente

By State Rep. Chente Quintanilla

Amendments on ballot

Hola, mi gente,

Every November is an election month. This year is no exception. Although the November 6th election is not for a multitude of candidates, it is for 16 important amendments to the Texas constitution.

During the 80th legislative session (Jan. '07 through May '07), the representatives and senators passed joint resolutions which are now on the November ballot. In order for these resolutions to be placed on the ballot for your vote, each house must have passed the measure with a two thirds majority. This makes it more difficult to change our constitution. However, only a majority number of votes (50% plus 1) is needed to pass the measure in the November election.

In an unusual occurrence, an item that normally would have been on the November election was placed on the May ballot for your vote. That amendment allowed the tax rate on school funding to be lowered and locked at that rate for households which qualify as a senior or disabled household. The measure passed easily.

Of the sixteen items on the ballot, four have minimal relevance for you here in El Paso County. The subjects for those amendments are as follows:

- Proposition One: It places Angelo State University under the funding umbrella of Texas Tech University.
- Proposition Five: It allows smaller cities (10,000 population or less) to temporarily freeze property taxes under certain conditions of redevelopment.
- Proposition Ten: It deletes any reference to the county office of hides and animals (clearly an outdated and unnecessary office).
- Proposition Fourteen: It allows any judges who have reached the mandatory retirement age to complete the current term on the bench.

I am sure that you will agree the four amendments have little impact on your everyday lives. In contrast to those items, the remaining items include four amendments authorizing general obligation bonds (potential increase in state debt), one amendment that would cap property appraisal values, one amendment revising home equity loan provisions, one amendment providing additional funding for economically distressed areas and other subjects.

The November 6th election is just six weeks away. During the next four to five weeks, I shall present you information about the amendments. In the next issue of the Courier, I shall dedicate the entire article to Amendment Number Three, providing an annual ten percent cap on increases in homestead taxable value. None of the articles will provide a recommendation to you, the voters. I shall only provide the information that I have received, in a balanced format, that has been provided to my office by the House Research Organization.

I hope the articles assist you in understanding the amendments.

Gracias, mi gente, and I remain your friend and public servant,
Chente for la gente.

Anthony pioneer, Mrs. Johnnie Beeson, dies at 84

ANTHONY — Johnnie Shumaker Beeson, 84, of Anthony, Texas, will be memorialized with a special service on Saturday, Oct. 22, at 10 a.m. in the West Valley Fire Department, 510 E. Vinton Road, in Vinton.

Mrs. Beeson died in El Paso on Aug. 28, 2007 after a lengthy struggle with lung disease.

Born March 14, 1928 in Mississippi, Johnnie moved to New Mexico as a small child, accompanied by her parents, Lloyd and Thelma Shumaker, her siblings, and other relatives, traveling mostly on dirt roads. They settled in Anthony where her father, Lloyd Shumaker, became foreman of the Haas Farms. She attended school in Las Cruces and Anthony where she graduated from Valley High School.

She worked for various businesses in the Anthony area and later with her husband, Paul Beeson, in their electrical business in Alamogordo, N.M.

When her husband suffered a stroke, she returned to Anthony, finally working as branch manager for the

First National Bank and for Western Bank, both of which have since changed ownership and name.

Mrs. Shumaker is preceded in death by her husband, Paul Beeson, her parents, Lloyd Shumaker and Thelma Shumaker Harbert, and her brother, James Winborn "Jake" Shumaker, who was killed in combat in Germany during World War II.

She is survived by her son, Russell Beeson and wife Nancy, of Anthony; three grandsons, Jared, Jody and Joshua Beeson of Tulsa, Oklahoma; two sisters, Marleen Shipp of Anthony and Beth Berry of Alamogordo; her sister-in-law, Faye Shumaker Pulis of Las Cruces, six nephews and three nieces.

The service for Mrs. Shumaker will be conducted by E. Yates Folk, Jr., minister for the Church of Christ of Anthony, assisted by Guy W. Pierce. A reception and visitation will follow the service.

Her cremated remains will be buried at the foot of her husband's grave in the Anthony Community Cemetery.

View from here By Raymundo Elí Rojas

Immigrants – legal or not – must be able to call for help

Recently, the Otero County New Mexico sheriff began scouring the town of Chaparral, NM for undocumented immigrants. Local law enforcement acting as the border patrol is a bad idea.

In general, law enforcement strives to gain the trust of the public. In fact, the Otero County Sheriff's website uses the word "trust" many times. By playing border patrol, local law enforcement erodes whatever trust they have in the community. Soon this will spread to other public services like hospitals, fire departments, and schools.

The ramifications can spread even to non-immigrant Latinos because incidents of racial profiling by local authorities are bound to rise. Ultimately, the safety of the public at-large will be negatively affected. Gang activity will be on the rise. Extortion against immigrants who fear the police will happen more and more.

Sound too far fetched? We have already seen the growth of gang problems in Texas-New Mexico border communities. This behavior by the Otero County Sheriff will shut the door on victims and complainants.

It may look good on paper for the Otero County Sheriff to enforce immigration law, but it is in direct conflict with the goals of community-oriented policing. I'm sure the Otero County Sheriff is interested in diversity and expanding community relationships. This behavior puts those efforts in jeopardy.

Complicating the issue is the fact that many family members are of mixed immigration status. Some are citizens, other residents, and still others are undocumented. The Immigration Policy Center said in a recent national study, roughly 4.9 million children in the United States live in households headed by undocumented immigrants. About 3.1 million of these children are U.S. born. Families become split in traumatic ways.

I say, let's educate law enforcement on the reasons for not inquiring about immigration status. They should be educated on the protections under immigration law for crime victims such as survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking. Authorities need to realize that if they

enforce immigration law, a civil violation, they subject victims of crime to further trauma. Victims of domestic violence will not call.

Fear of law enforcement will inevitably affect you and me in very direct ways. Your neighbor will not call police if he sees suspicious behavior outside of your home or if your house is on fire. Assaults and rapes may go unreported.

Also, enforcement of immigration law by local law enforcement has the potential civil rights lawsuits. Many

communities across the nation have seen how expensive it can be to mount a defense to subsequent lawsuits.

We want to keep everybody safe. For that reason, law enforcement needs to stay close to the community, including immigrant communities. They cannot alienate themselves if they depend on people to help solve crime and investigate terrorism.

Raymundo Elí Rojas is executive director of Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center in El Paso, Texas.

View from here By Tom Emery

Your walk can help end Alzheimer's

The El Paso Alzheimer's Association will hold its largest annual fundraising event of the year on October 13. You can walk with a purpose to end Alzheimer's by participating in the Memory Walk 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in Ascarate Park. The walk will begin shortly after registration.

El Pasoans who want to participate in the walk can go to <http://elpasomemorywalk2007.kintera.org> to register themselves and their teams. Prizes will be awarded at the walk. Those who want to honor a person with Alzheimer's will be able to purchase Tribute Flags which will be available at the walk. Local title sponsor is Casa Ford.

Hundreds of El Paso residents are on the Move to end Alzheimer's disease at the annual Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk. The event raises public awareness and funds for the fight against Alzheimer's. The 2006 Memory Walk raised over \$30 million nationally for care and support of those affected by the disease and research for the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of Alzheimer's.

In El Paso, and around the world, there are support groups for Alzheimer's patients, including a 24-hour Helpline — 1-800-272-3900. Online, there are Alzheimer's Association message boards and chat

rooms providing a virtual online community for persons with Alzheimer's, caregivers and care providers.

The mission of the Alzheimer's Association is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health.

As our population ages, there are more and more people touched by Alzheimer's. Nearly everyone has a loved one who is affected, and we are also all concerned with our own vulnerability. We must find a cure!

Memory Walk is a signature event held in cities throughout the nation. It brings together family, friends, caregivers and concerned community members — who all want to make a difference. Since 1989, Memory Walk has raised more than \$200 million to help those battling Alzheimer's disease.

If you are willing to get involved with helping the Alzheimer's Association find a cure, you won't find a more worthy cause. A great place to start is by participating in the Memory Walk on October 13. An easy way to register is online at <http://elpasomemorywalk2007.kintera.org> and click on "Register Here."

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Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss Canutillo Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

The Canutillo Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6 p.m., Tuesday, October 9, 2007 in the boardroom of the Canutillo ISD Administration Facility, 7965 Artcraft Road, El Paso, Texas.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Canutillo Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 09/27/07 & 10/04/07

Notice of Public Meeting To Discuss San Elizario Independent School District's State Financial Accountability Rating

The San Elizario Independent School District will hold a public hearing at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 10, 2007 in the boardroom of the San Elizario ISD Administration Building, 1050 Chicken Ranch Road, San Elizario, Texas.

The purpose of this hearing is to discuss San Elizario Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system.

WTCC: 09/20/07 & 09/27/07



Moore Texas by Roger T. Moore Jamie Stewart of Austin became the first Texas woman to swim the frigid 21 mile English Channel in 1976.

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

TOWN OF ANTHONY

September 14, 2007

P. O. Box 1269
Anthony, TX 79821
(915) 886-3944

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS:

Seventeen (17) days after this publication, the Town of Anthony intends to request that the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) release federal CDBG funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), for TxCDBG TCF Contract #727102.

Texas Capital Fund Program Real Estate and Infrastructure Development Contract #727102

TDA/TCF Cost

Exempt Activities

Engineering Services	\$ 83,500
Real Property Acquisition (7.64 acres)	351,600
General Administration	60,000

Environmental Assessment Activities

Water System Facilities	13,000
Sewer System Facilities	195,600
Traffic Control Activities	140,000
Street Improvements	141,100
Subtotal TxCDBG-TDA/TCF	\$ 984,800

Project Location:

West end of Rainbow Lake Drive, adjacent to Doniphan Drive (SH 20/US 80), southeast quadrant of the Town of Anthony, in El Paso County, Texas. (See project location map.)

Finding of No Significant Impact

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

The town has made an Environmental Review Record for the proposed project, which documents the environmental review of the project and more fully sets forth the reasons why such a statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the Anthony Town Hall and is available for public examination and copying, upon request, between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Public Comments on Findings

All interested agencies, groups, and individuals disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Town of Anthony, at the address set forth above. Such written comments must be received at the address specified within sixteen (16) days after this publication; all comments so received will be considered, and the town will not request release of funds or take administrative action on the project prior to the end of the that 16-day period.

Release of Funds

The Town of Anthony will undertake the activities described above with a grant from the Texas Capital Fund Program administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). That grant was issued from Community Development Block Grants funds under Title I from the 2007 Program Year, under the provisions of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. The Town of Anthony is certifying to the Texas Department Agriculture that the Honorable Art Franco, in his official capacity as Mayor of the Town of Anthony, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental review, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that, upon its approval, the Town of Anthony may use the Block Grant funds and it will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. TDA will accept an objection to its approval only on one or more of the bases and the procedures described in 24 CFR Part 58.75. Objections are to be addressed to the Texas Capital Fund Program, Texas Department of Agriculture, P. O. Box 12847, Austin, TX 78711.

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

Art Franco, Mayor
Town of Anthony

West Texas County Courier
Published: September 20, 2007

archives:
www.wtccourier.com

Public Notice Village of Vinton, Texas

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at **6:30 p.m. during a Special City Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 25, 2007** at City Hall, 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested person to appear and testify at the hearing regarding the following:

- 1) Ordinance No. 2007-09-25-2, An Ordinance Authorizing the Assessment and Collection of Property Taxes within the Village of Vinton, Texas and Authorizing the City of El Paso Tax Office to perform the Actual Assessment and Collection of said Property Taxes on behalf of the Village of Vinton, Texas for the Fiscal Year of October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008.

Those unable to attend the public Hearing may submit their views to the Village of Vinton. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; Handicapped persons in need of special assistance for attending the hearings are encouraged to contact the City Secretary at (915) 886-5104, forty eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. Copies of the ordinance are available for review at 436 E. Vinton Road, Vinton, Texas 79821.

Jessica Garza
City Secretary

WTCC: 10/20/07

EARLY PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF ANTHONY, TEXAS

Floodplains and Wetlands Notice Texas Community Development Project — TCF Contract #727102

The Town of Anthony, Texas, is considering undertaking a project that consists of real property acquisition and the installation of water system improvements, sanitary sewer system improvements, road improvements, and traffic controls to serve an industrial development site. The proposed project will be undertaken with assistance from a grant issued by the Texas Capital Fund Program of the Texas Department of Agriculture, and funded as a Community Development Block Grant project under the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program for non-entitlement cities and counties. The project is located partially in the 100-year floodplain. The Town of Anthony is interested in discussing alternatives to this project, securing public perceptions of possible adverse impacts that could result from the project, and discussing possible measures by which to minimize any adverse impacts.

A public hearing is scheduled on September 24, 2007, at 5:00 P.M., at the Anthony Town Hall, for the purpose of discussing this project. The public is invited to attend this hearing, or to submit written comments to the Office of the Mayor at Anthony Town Hall, or mail those written comments to P. O. Box 1269, Anthony, TX 79821. Comments must be received no later than sixteen (16) days after the date of publication of this notice.

The issuance of this notice and the public hearing are actions that must be taken in compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program/Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. Section 4001 et seq.) and the guidelines of Executive Orders 11988 and 11990, as required by the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program.

Art Franco
Mayor

Date published
September 20, 2007

School board notes By Don Woodyard

EL PASO COUNTY—The County Courier provides highlights of the September board meetings of the Canutillo and San Elizario Independent School Districts:

Canutillo ISD: Sept. 11

Trustees postponed approval on construction of a field house for Canutillo High School. Alfredo Vasquez, public information officer for the district, later explained that funding for constructing the field house came from a \$1.975 million 2006 bond issue that also included additional bleachers at the football stadium.

Vasquez said the administration would later go before the board for approval of what he said was a new and revised "guaranteed maximum price" amendment. He explained that the nearly \$2 million approved would not cover the cost of both the new field house and the new bleachers as originally envisioned.

The revised, pared-back design plan would call for construction in two phases. He emphasized that the

changes were necessary to stay within budget.

The first phase would be the field house with storage facilities and locker rooms. The second phase would cover the new bleachers. No date has been set for construction to begin.

Armando Rodriguez, chairman of the facilities and planning committee, updated the board on Garcia Elementary School renovation project as well as on land purchase negotiations for Arellano Elementary School.

Al Perez, vice president of sales and service for Government Employees Credit Union, reported on its new branch office which opened at the high school at the beginning of the school year. (This was reported in a recent Courier article.)

High school senior Erica White, a student-employee of the GECU branch, said she was thrilled and thankful for the opportunity to work there. She added that her work experience has given her more confidence.

A formal grand opening of the high school branch of the credit union will be held at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 1.

Prior to the board meeting, a reception was held with U.S. Rep. Sylvestre Reyes honoring Miriam Garcia who served as a page in the U.S. House of Representatives this past summer. A high school senior, she is the daughter of Ruben and Martha Garcia. She is currently ranked second scholastically in her class.

San Elizario ISD: Sept. 12

The new park in the SEISD will be named for Alexandra Flores, the five-year-old girl who was kidnapped and killed six years ago.

Two names were finalists for the park located behind Excell Academy had been forwarded to the committee established to review proposed names and make the final selection. The other name was Grand Valley Park. Another name initially proposed for the park was for Jose Jorge Perez, an early teacher in the school district.

George Luevano, director of support services, said the park was about 80 percent complete. Work remains on playground equipment, planting

grass and aligning athletic fields. He expected dedication of the park would take place in October.

Flores was abducted from a Wal-Mart in November of 2001.

"She was beautiful, really a sweetheart," remembered Christine Jaksch, who was assistant principal at Loya Primary where Flores was a student.

Borrego was recognized at the board meeting for achieving Recognized status by the Texas Education Agency.

Luevano also said work was progressing on construction projects at Alarcon Elementary and Garcia-Enriquez Middle School.

The \$3.1 million cafeteria/gym project at Alarcon is 59 percent complete and should be finished by the end of October. The work on the Garcia-Enriquez involves a new 18-room classroom wing and library. The cost is \$5.2 million. It is 68 percent complete. Completion date is pegged at the end of November.

Both projects have been delayed by what Luevano terms unexpected "earthwork issues." It involved unearthing old septic systems and retention tanks and dealing with additional excavation of leeching fields. He said those issues have been resolved.

The board also honored the top students at San Elizario High and Garcia-Enriquez Middle schools.

The top high school students for the 2006-07 year were Eddie Barragan, 12th grade; Joey Valencia, 11th grade; Valerie Onzures, 10th grade and Perla de la Torre, ninth grade.

The top three middle school students were Sam Cardona, eighth grade; Cassandra Martinez, seventh grade; and Erin Morales, sixth grade.



**To Advertise
Call 852-3235**

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 2007 on September 27, 2007, 6:15 p.m., 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, David Carrasco, Alicia L. Fresquez and Gerald Grijalva

AGAINST the proposal: NONE

PRESENT and not voting: NONE

ABSENT: Henry Trujillo

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)	0.227266/\$100 Adopted	0.214407/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$ - 0.012859/\$100
Percentage increase / decrease in rates (+/-)		- 5.66%
Average appraised value	\$ 57,502	\$ 63,858
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled persons exemptions)	0.00	0.00
Average taxable value	\$ 57,502	\$ 63,858
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 130.68	\$ 136.92
Annual increase / decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		+ \$6.24
and percentage of increase (+/-)		+ 4.78%

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.

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

The Town of Anthony conducted public hearings on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the

Town of Anthony

from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year by 4.55 percent decrease on Thursday, September 13, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. and Thursday, September 20, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

The Town of Anthony is scheduled to vote on the tax rate that will result in that tax increase at a public meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 25, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., 401 Wildcat Drive, Anthony, Texas 79821.

Miner's need a secondary, Patriots need a loan department

By Steve Escajeda
Special to the Courier

There is no one out there who is going to convince me that Mike Price hasn't done a fantastic job as the coach of the UTEP Miners football program. But I do have one bit of advice

for the veteran coach.

You know that two-quarterback experiment the Miners are going with, the one with freshman Trevor Vittatoe and senior Lorne Sam — dump it!

The proof that the two-headed quarterback concept is a complete failure was never more evident than at last weekend's 29-24 loss to

the New Mexico State Aggies.

Vittatoe started slowly but as the game wore on, he began showing signs of turning into the kind of quarterback Price has made a career of developing.

But midway through the game the Miners had just taken the lead from the Aggies, then forced a punt and had the ball again near the

50-yard line. Vittatoe was coming off his best offensive series and he (and the Miners) had all the momentum and had a chance to take a big lead.

But then I believe Price made a big mistake. He inserted Lorne Sam at quarterback. And needless to say, Sam, who everyone and their pet schnauzer knows is going to either hand it off or run it himself, couldn't move the offense and the momentum was lost.

I can only wonder what would have been had Vittatoe been allowed to stay in the whole game. At least the Aggies defense would have had to play both the run, and the pass.

The Miners won't start the Conference USA season for another couple of weeks (UTEP hosts Texas Southern this week), but I think the rest of the season will go the way Vittatoe goes.

He is not only the quarterback of the future, he's the quarterback of the present.

There's no telling how good this young quarterback can be. Now if the Miners can find a few guys who can play defense, they'll be okay.

Roger Goodell has had his hands busy in his inaugural season as the game's boss. He's had to deal with the Bears' Tank Johnson, he handed down a year-long suspension to the Tennessee Titans' Pacman Jones and he suspended the Atlanta Falcons' Michael Vick indefinitely for his mistreatment of animals. That's a lot for an entire year, let alone a few months.

But Goodell's work is never done. His latest encounter with an NFL bad boy was a surprising one. New England Patriots' coach Bill Belichick was called into the commissioner's office and was fined a half-million dollars for stealing New York Jets signals.

I've heard many current and former NFL coaches and players defend Belichick this week by spewing the company line, "everybody else does it," or "they've been doing that for years."

I guess what got Belichick in such hot water is the fact that Goodell had just told all NFL teams to stop that kind of cheating. So what does Belichick do, he hires a guy to stand on the sidelines and spend the game videotaping his opponent's coaches giving their signals.

What arrogance, what ego, what stupidity. Belichick was a real big man when he decided to defy the commissioner and cheat, but when it was time to face the media about it, he was much less the man and refused to even talk about it.

When he did open his mouth, Belichick said the information he received from the video didn't give his team any kind of advantage, and the info was never used against his opponent during the game.

Of course, he didn't say whether it would be used the next time the team's played — oh, and I've got a rather obvious question. If the video of the opposing coaches didn't give you an advantage, THEN WHY DO IT?

Goodell fined the Patriots another \$250,000 and Belichick's decision will cost the team one of their two first-round draft choices next year if they make the playoffs this year.

Anyway, you've got to hand it to Roger Goodell, the guy is doing his best to turn the NFL, and other professional sports by their example, into a respectable, responsible league of mature adults and role models.

Maybe it's just a pipedream, but the man is trying to clean up his NFL town. I hope he succeeds.



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SUN BOWL 7:00 PM

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Coupons available at Howdys.com while supplies last.

For more information call 747-5234




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UTEP VS. IDAHO

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2007

UNIVERSITY FIELD 7:00 PM

UTEP VS. NEW MEXICO

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2007

UNIVERSITY FIELD 2:00 PM

EDUCATOR APPRECIATION NIGHT, \$2 WITH SCHOOL ID

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Classified Ads

LEGALS

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2007

ENERGY MANAGEMENT CONTROLS OEM PARTS AND OEM EQUIPMENT
CSP NO. 199-0925-7136RB
ACCEPTED UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

CHEMICAL FOR THE AQUATIC CENTER
CSP NO. 199-0925-7121RB
ACCEPTED

UNTIL 2:30 P.M.

REPLACING OF TELESCOPIC STANDS FOR BLEACHES AT SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL
CSP NO. 199-0925-7138
ACCEPTED UNTIL 3:00 P.M.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT
RFO NO. 199-0925-7131
ACCEPTED UNTIL 3:30 P.M.

MISCELLANEOUS OPERATIONAL SUPPLIES
CSP NO. 199-0925-8005
ACCEPTED UNTIL 4:00 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. WTCC-09/20/07

SOCORRO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Invitation to Bid/Respond:

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2007

AUDIO VISUAL MEDIA
CSP NO. 199-0927-8004
ACCEPTED UNTIL 10:30 A.M.

Proposals will be received at Business Services Dept., 12300

Eastlake Drive, El Paso, Texas 79928 until the specified times. Detailed specifications are available from the above office between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. WTCC-09/20/07

BARGAINS

HAVARD Billiards Table for sale. Excellent condition. \$500 (\$1,200 new). Includes cues, stand, etc. 852-2006.

COUNSELING SERVICES

DAMIAN MAURIERA, LCSW - Professional Counseling/Therapy: Youth, Adults, Marital, Family, Health insurance and FEE SCALE ACCEPTED. Medicare, Medicaid and CHIP. 657 Winn Rd. in Socorro, Texas. Call 858-3857 for appointment.

HELP WANTED

Bartender needed minimum wage paid plus tips. Call 852-4823 after 3pm.

RENTAL

20 'X45'space for rent. \$250/month, 852-9371, Horizon Self Storage.

DOCUMENT ASSISTANCE

Divorce documents prepared, includes petition, waiver, final decree. Covers children and property. \$275. (915) 851-1425.

SELF-HELP

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

STORAGE

National Self Storage BRAND NEW UNITS
10'x20' - Special \$85/mth for 3 months. Call Blanca or Gina. 852-8300.

SERVICES

"Windshield Ding — Gimme a Ring" JIFFY GLASS REPAIR
Windshield Repair Specialists
By appt. at your home or office:
R.V. Dick Harshberger 915-852-9082

HORIZON CITY PLUMBING 852-1079

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- Appliance installation
- Many other plumbing services

Licensed, bonded and insured for your protection.

Town of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

The SECOND PUBLIC HEARING will be held at **6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 9, 2007** during the **Regular Council Meeting** at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow interested persons to appear and testify regarding the proposed annexation of the following property:

- 1) Parcel One: The parcel of land consists of approximately 631 acres and is described as a portion of Survey No. 321, C. D. Stewart Survey No. 321, El Paso County, Texas.
- 2) Parcel Two: The parcel of land consists of approximately 5.112 acres and is described as a portion of State of Texas property known as Tract 7 and Tract 3, Section 21, Block 79, Township 3, Texas and Pacific Railway Survey, El Paso County, Texas.

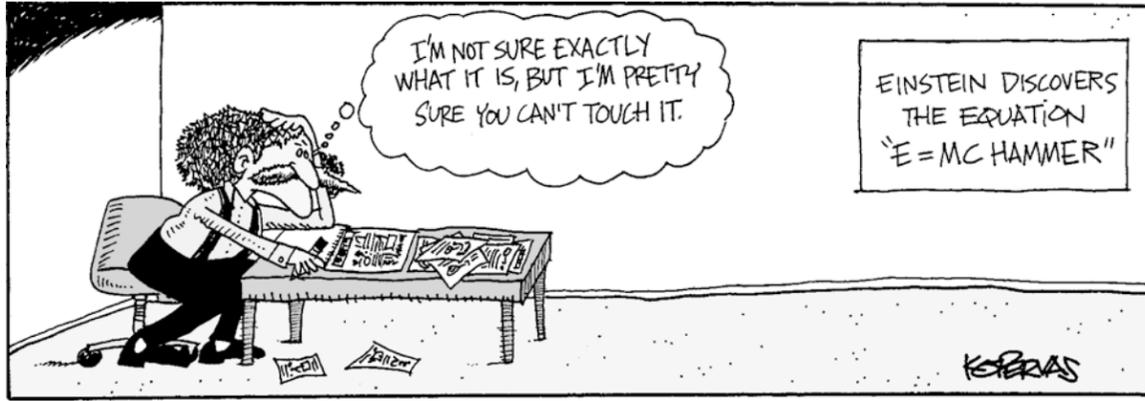
Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk of Horizon City. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available and individuals in need of special assistance for attending the hearing are encouraged to contact the City Clerk at 915-852-1046, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting.

Karen Ellefson
Interim City Clerk

WTCC: 09-20-07

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



Learn to fake authenticity

By Don Flood

Attention, high-school seniors, it's time to go over the All-Important College Application Checklist.

Figured out which colleges you'd like to attend? *Check.*

Forgotten about those colleges and decided where you might actually have a chance? *Check.*

Realized you've got a problem with those schools too and added appropriate "safe" schools to your list, including the Kalamazoo College for Klueless Kids? (Warning: This school has recently gotten a lot tougher.) *Check.*

Completed error-free application and admission essay? *Check.*

You fell for it, didn't you? All those years of schooling have rotted your brain to the point where you can't even spot an obvious set-up.

Accuracy is out, my friends! Mistakes are in. (Mistakes is in?)

The following absolutely true headline appeared on MSNBC.com: "A typo may help your college admission."

It continues: "Steven Roy Goodman, an independent college counselor, tells clients to make a small mistake somewhere in their application — on purpose."

All that stuff teachers have been drilling into your head for the past 12 years about spelling and accuracy? Forget about it. (Forgedabout it?)

According to the story, "What Goodman is going for is 'authenticity' — an increasingly hot selling point in college admissions."

But it's not as easy as it sounds. In yet another quote I'm not making up, Goodman said, "There's a little bit of an arms race going on. If I'm being more authentic than you are, you have to be more authentic next month to keep up with the Joneses."

So while earlier students may have cut the academic mustard with a typo or two, this year's ap-

plicants have be prepared to turn in complete gibberish.

Here's the problem. Many of you otherwise promising young scholars (skolars?) are woefully unskilled at faking authenticity, despite years of delivering straight-faced whoppers to your parents.

You need someone to make careless errors for you.

This is where I can help. As a trained professional journalist, I can take your embarrassingly perfect copy and turn it into something incomprehensible. For further authenticity, I can make up stuff out of whole cloth.

Here, for example, is typical college essay:

"If I am accepted into Prestigious University, it will help me reach my goal of becoming a caring and productive member of our society. In addition I will bring about world peace, end poverty and hunger, and produce worthwhile TV reality shows."

But college admission officials aren't dumb. They know no one's going to produce worthwhile reality TV. Plus, all those correctly spelled words will be a dead giveaway that you're not college material.

Here's the same essay, after I have "authenticized" it. (It's a new word I just made up.)

"If you losers dont admit me into PU, I will take up a life of armed robbery, probly on the PU campus. YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!!"

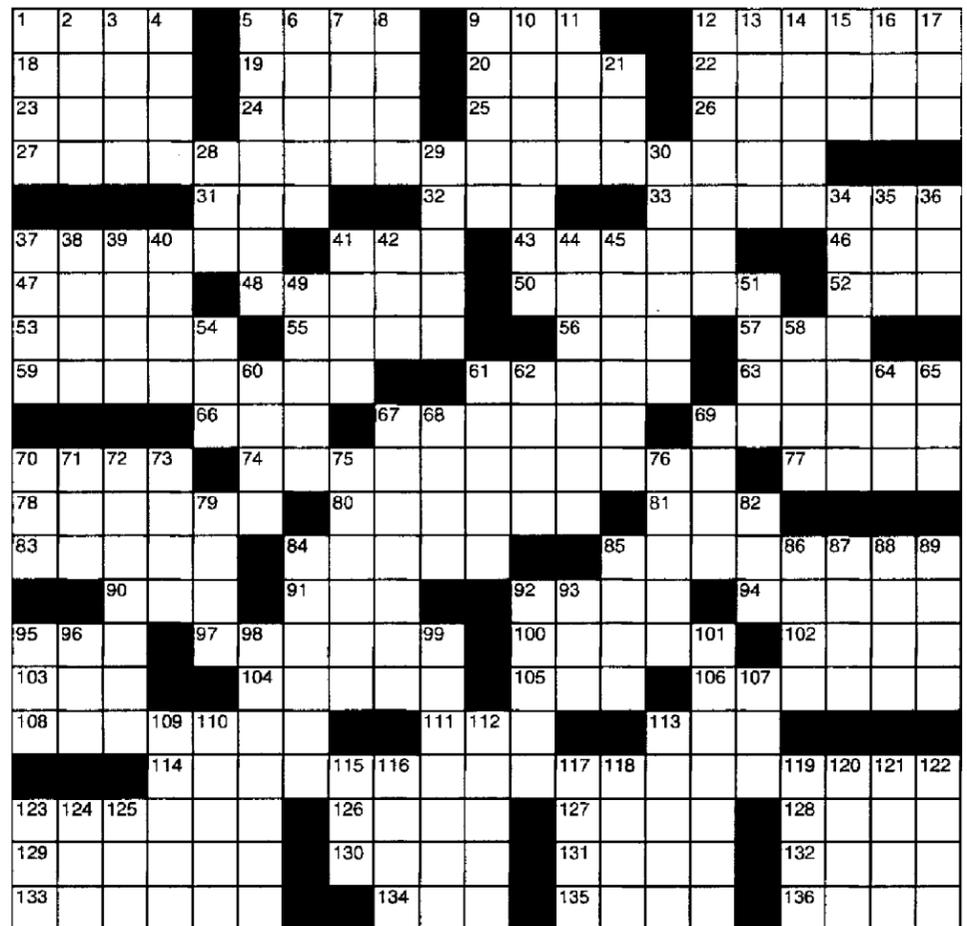
This essay accomplishes a couple of things: 1) It offers a solid reason not to overlook your application, and 2) It establishes right off that you are "authentic," perhaps dangerously so.

Then you can pick the school of your choice.

(c) 2007 King Features Synd., Inc. dflood287@comcast.net.

King Super Crossword

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| PURCHASING POWER ACROSS | 63 Christine of "Housekeeping" | 130 Wonka's creator | "Cheers" | 95 Morrow or Dana |
| 1 "Kon-Tiki," for one | 66 Actor Brynner | 131 Inland sea | 38 Artistic output | 96 _ standstill |
| 5 Relay length | 67 Penny _ | 132 Tun throwaways | 39 Coll. cadets | 98 "The Sage of Concord" |
| 9 Lawyers' org. | 69 Seoul man? | 133 With 17 Down, TV chef | 40 Qatar's continent | 99 Loman portrayal |
| 12 Pontificate | 70 Grass' "The Tin _" | 134 Comedian Louis | 41 Sarcastic remark | 101 Prickly plant |
| 18 Grasso or Raines | 74 Part 3 of remark | 135 Ruminant | 42 Santa _ CA | 107 Broad sash |
| 19 Preowned | 77 Philanthropist | 136 New Mexico resort | 44 Desert | 109 Film critic Roger |
| 20 Daring | Cornell | | 45 Sphere | 110 _ Gras |
| 22 European peninsula | 78 Creche figure | DOWN | 49 Novelist Cather | 112 Bridal path? |
| 23 "Giselle" composer | 80 Whelan or Sorkin | 1 Paper quantity | 51 Rural sight | 113 Doctor Salk |
| 24 Sour fruit | 81 Tear | 2 Filmdom's Ray | 54 Attempt | 115 Pitch in |
| 25 Cupid | 83 Brawl | 3 Custard of Castile | 58 Attention | 116 Where to speak Farsi |
| 26 Elect | 84 Made like Mata Hari | 4 Docile | 60 "That hurts!" | 117 Metric weight |
| 27 Start of a remark by Evan Esar | 85 Chicken feed | 5 Brawn | 61 Put on | 118 Neighbor of Brazil |
| 31 "Nightmare" street | 90 Doctrine | 6 Cairo creed | 62 Martha of "Jumbo" | 119 Lean |
| 32 Party potable | 91 Canine grp. | 7 Uris or Trotsky | 64 Coal by-product | 120 Concept |
| 33 Likely to last? | 92 Cry of regret | 8 Churchill's successor | 65 Claire or Balin | 121 Toast topper |
| 37 Chemical compound | 94 Part 4 of remark | 9 Diminish | 67 Fuzzy fruit | 122 Stack role |
| 41 Gangster's gun | 95 Rocker Morrison | 10 Gasconade | 68 Govern | 123 Poult's papa |
| 43 Kafka character | 97 - piece | 11 Baseball family name | 69 Mend, as a bone | 124 Palindromic name |
| 46 Bother | 100 Easily digested | 12 Important | 70 Record players? | 125 _ diem |
| 47 Homer's field | 102 See 75 Down | 13 Superior to | 71 Caviar | |
| 48 Pen pals? | 103 Skater Midori | 14 With 72 Down, "Spartacus" actor | 72 See 14 Down | |
| 50 Govt. notes | 104 _ Carlo | 15 Exist | 73 New York team | |
| 52 Duty | 105 "_ been had!" | 16 102, to Tacitus | 75 With 102 Across, table accessory | |
| 53 Part 2 of remark | 106 Like Mister Ed? | 17 See 133 Across | 76 From Cork | |
| 55 Steel support | 108 Neanderthals | 21 Thirsty | 79 Splendor | |
| 56 Ryan's "Love Story" co-star | 111 Remind one's spouse? | 28 Craving | 82 Child welfare org. | |
| 57 Travel agcy.? | 113 Part of a crane | 29 Weasel relative | 84 Island outfit | |
| 59 Salad veggie | 114 End of remark | 30 Uggams or Caron | 85 Summon electronically | |
| 61 Football's Herber | 123 Candles | 34 Mississippi port | 86 Taj town | |
| | 126 Enrages | 35 Nabokov novel | 87 Film _ | |
| | 127 Monthly expense | 36 Deli delicacy | 88 Takes in | |
| | 128 Vegetate | 37 Neuwirth of | 89 Add fringe | |
| | 129 Go to extremes | | 92 Position correctly | |
| | | | 93 Actress Tyler | |



Answer Page 5

Social Security Q&A By Ray Vigil

Q: Where can I go to find general information about Medicare benefits?

A: Social Security determines whether people are entitled to Medicare benefits, but the program is administered by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). You can visit the Medicare website at www.medicare.gov/, or call them at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). Online or on the phone, you can find answers to all your Medicare questions at CMS.

Q: I'm getting married later this month and plan to change my name.

What documents do I need to apply for a new Social Security card with the correct name?

A: To change your name in Social Security's records, and on your Social Security card, you'll need to provide proof of your U.S. citizenship (if you have not previously established it with us) or immigration status. You'll need to show us evidence of your legal name change by showing us documentation of your old and new names. Such documents could include a court order for a name change, marriage document, divorce decree or Certificate of Naturaliza-

tion. Finally, you'll need to show us proof of identity. Visit our website about your Social Security card and number at www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber/ where you can get more information and fill out your application. Or call us at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Q: I have both Part B and Part D Medicare coverage. What if my monthly Social Security benefit isn't enough to cover multiple premiums at one time?

A: If your monthly Social Security benefit isn't enough to cover multiple premium payments at one time, the premiums won't be deducted. Your plan will bill you directly and you can pay them directly. You also can ar-

range with your plan for the premiums to be automatically withdrawn from your checking or saving bank account. It appears you might be eligible for extra help with your prescription cost. Contact your local Social Security Office or visit our website www.socialsecurity.gov for more information.

Q: My son has been disabled since he was little. Now that he's an adult, can he get Social Security, even though he never worked?

A: If your son was disabled before reaching age 22 and is currently not able to work due to a disability, he may be eligible for Social Security disabled adult child benefits. Disabled adult child benefits are paid based on a retired, disabled or deceased parent's or stepparent's record, and in some instances are based on the record of a grandparent or step-grandparent. To learn more about disabled adult child benefits, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov/dibplan/dacpage.shtml or call us at 1-800-

772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Q: I've always heard that Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is for blind and disabled people. I'm neither, but I'm retiring in a few months and my Social Security isn't enough to pay the bills. Can I get SSI?

A: SSI is a needs-based program. If you have limited income and resources, you might qualify for SSI. To be eligible, you must either be blind, disabled OR age 65 or older. SSI is not only for people with disabilities. To learn more, and to find out whether you're eligible and how to apply, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov. You also may call us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

For more information on any of the questions listed above, visit our website at www.socialsecurity.gov or call us at 1-800-772-1213. If you have any questions, please mail them to the Social Security Office, 11111 Gateway West, Attn: Ray Vigil, El Paso, Texas 79935.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Texas Gas Service Company (the "Company") hereby gives notice that on August 31, 2007 it filed a Statement of Intent to Increase Rates in the Cities of El Paso, Anthony, Clint, Horizon City, Socorro and Vinton, which together with the environs areas comprise the Company's El Paso Service Area ("EPSA"). The Company seeks to implement a new schedule of natural gas service rates and terms and conditions of service for all classes of customers. If approved, the proposed changes will affect approximately 183,494 residential, 11,872 commercial, 47 industrial, 764 public authority, 34 transportation and 2 stand by customers within these Cities.

The Company's proposed rate schedules will increase base rate revenues by \$4,724,571 for the EPSA. Additionally, the Company requests recovery of revenue-related taxes as a line-item on the bill rather than recovering these taxes as part of base rates as previously done. This change will produce additional revenue of \$725,689, for a total annual revenue increase for the entire EPSA of \$5,450,250. The proposed change in rates does not constitute a "major change" as that term is defined by Section 104.101 of the Texas Utilities Code. In addition, the Company requests reimbursement of all Company and City rate case expenses as allowed by law. The exact amount will not be known until the case is completed.

Based on the proposed rate design, the system-wide average monthly bill for each customer class will increase by the amount and percent shown in the table below:

Customer Class	Amount	Percent
Residential	\$1.49 to \$1.62	3.6% to 3.9%
Commercial	(\$5.13) to (\$4.84)	-2.5% to -2.4%
Commercial A/C	\$9.56	10.2% to 10.3%
Industrial	\$140 to \$145	4.5% to 4.8%
Public Authority	(\$15) to (\$5)	-1.8% to -0.6%
Public Authority A/C	(\$13)	-1.2%
Municipal Water Pumping	\$21	0.3%
Standard Transport – Commercial	(\$48) to (\$39)	-1.8% to -1.9%
Standard Transport – Industrial	(\$12) to (\$2)	-0.3% to -0.1%
Standard Transport – Public Authority	(\$87) to (\$79)	-5.7% to -6.4%
Standard Transport – Cogeneration	0	0
Stand By	\$100	6.3%

Note: Bill impact ranges are due to varying tax rates among the Cities in EPSA.

The following tables show the number of customers by class located within each of the Cities and the environs that together comprise the EPSA, along with each City's allocated portion of the requested revenue increase (allocation based on bills).

Jurisdiction	Revenue Increase \$	Rev. Incr. %	Res. Custs	Comm. Custs	Pub. Auth. Custs	Ind. Custs	Stand By Custs	Transp. Custs
El Paso	4,773,855	16.2%	171,463	11,362	711	42	2	31
Anthony	25,053	18.4%	745	91	10	1	0	2
Clint	7,339	16.5%	257	14	5	1	0	0
Horizon City	117,021	17.4%	4,038	122	13	1	0	1
Socorro	202,184	18.4%	6,573	247	24	0	0	0
Vinton	14,223	19.3%	418	36	1	2	0	1
Environs	310,585	14.0%	13,245	447	89	10	0	2

Other proposed tariff changes include revisions to the Rules of Service, including new or increased service charges. Also, the Company proposes changes to the Cost of Gas Clause to provide for recovery of uncollectible gas costs through the Cost of Gas rather than through base rates. The Company also proposes a new Transportation Schedule, T-1, and revisions to the Transportation General Charges and Provisions. This change addresses commodity imbalance provisions and upstream pipeline balancing service costs. In addition, the Company proposes a new Cost of Service adjustment clause, Rate Schedule COSA, to provide for an annual review by the Cities of the Company's expenses, revenues and plant investment and a corresponding adjustment to the Company's rates to reflect annual changes (increases or decreases) in these categories. Finally, TGS proposes a gas conservation program and tariff to authorize the program.

Complete copies of the filed Statement of Intent, including all proposed rates and schedule changes, are available for inspection at the Company's business office located at 4600 Pollard Street, El Paso, Texas, 79930. Persons with specific questions or desiring additional information about this filing may contact the Company at 915-680-7204.

Town of Horizon City PUBLIC NOTICE

A PUBLIC HEARING will be held at **6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 25, 2007** during the **Regular City Council Meeting** at City Hall, 14999 Darrington Road, Horizon City, Texas. Purpose of the public hearing is to allow any interested persons to appear and testify regarding the following proposed ordinance(s):

1) Ordinance No. 0163, An Ordinance Adopting a Budget for the Fiscal Year Commencing October 1, 2007 and Ending on September 30, 2008, for the Town of Horizon City, Texas.

This budget will raise more total property Taxes than last year's budget by \$319,452 an increase of 25.25%, and of that amount, \$245,239 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

2) Ordinance No. 0164, An Ordinance Authorizing the Assessment and Collection of Property Taxes within the Town of Horizon City, Texas and Authorizing the City of El Paso Tax Office to perform the Actual Assessment and Collection of said Property Taxes on behalf of the Town of Horizon City, Texas for the Fiscal Year of October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008.

3) Amendment No. 0020 to Zoning Ordinance No. 0102, to Repeal and Replace Amendment 004, Appendix III, Building Permit Fee Schedules as passed on December 9, 2004, for the Town of Horizon City, Texas.

Those who are unable to attend may submit their views in writing to the City Clerk. Accommodations for handicapped persons will be available; and individuals in need of special assistance for attending the hearings are encouraged to contact the City Clerk (915) 852-1046, forty-eight (48) hours prior to this meeting. Ordinances are always available for viewing or copying upon request from the City Clerk at the above address.

*Karen Ellefson
Interim City Clerk*

WTCC: 09/20/07

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