

Arizona Daily Star®

www.dailystar.com® www.azstarnet.com®

Published: 09.06.2006

Letters to the editor

More online

To read additional letters and tips on how to comment, visit us online at www.dailystar.com/opinion

Postal clerks hate change, too

Re: the Aug. 24 article "It's stand up, line up and wait as post offices end number slips."

The signs in the lobbies state that this change was done due to customer demand. Which customers you may ask? Certainly not those who have written to the newspapers or have spoken to television cameras. It certainly is not the customers I have spoken to, and it most certainly was not the elderly or disabled customers.

I would like to thank the general public for still praising the work that the window clerks do, and for understanding that this silly change was the work of higher-level managers and not the clerks themselves.

Now is the time for our postal customers to tell the post office and their elected officials to put the service back into the United States Postal Service.

Connie Sadler-Nelson

President, American Postal Workers Union, Tucson-area local

U.S. must not run from terror

Why are the Iraq war casualties totaling 2,600 over the five-year period stressed daily while the highway death toll and smoking death tally for the same period goes unnoticed? What is the purpose? Is it to convince the public that war is hell, embarrass our political leaders or encourage withdrawal from Iraq? Is it an invitation to the terrorists to continue because the United States will run when the going gets tough?

Unfortunately, we forget that nearly 3,000 people were killed on 9/11 in a matter of hours.

John M. Thomas

Tucson

Grass has many beneficial uses

Re: the Aug. 29 guest opinion "Buffelgrass criticism is misguided; plant's benefits receive short shrift."

I greatly enjoyed Ann Carr's alternative views on buffelgrass. At last, someone is looking at the good side of buffelgrass. Ralph Waldo Emerson said "a weed is a plant whose virtues have yet to be discovered." Buffelgrass has many virtues. Carr mentioned the ability of buffelgrass to greatly increase rainwater infiltration into the soil.

Had the watersheds of the Santa Cruz River been covered with buffelgrass, the devastating floods of October 1983 could have been largely averted, as well as the half-billion dollars of damage resulting from the floods.

It's no big problem controlling buffelgrass; just a few cows per section of land will do it. And they will be grinning from ear to ear as they graze that luscious, nutritious buffelgrass.

Robert M. Dixon

Soil scientist, Tucson