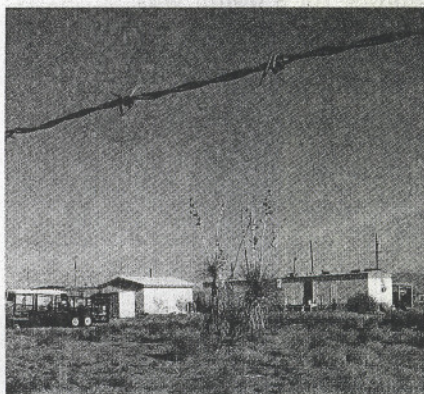


## THE BORDER

### Colonia Power

**C**HAPARRAL, N.M., is one of thousands of *colonias*—sleepy Third World trailer settlements along the U.S.-Mexico border—sprawled across the Southwestern desert. In theory, two U.S. counties govern Chaparral, but residents there, as in most colonias, are more often ruled by the Border Patrol. A local advocacy group, the Chaparral Community Health Council



**NOT AGAIN:** Residents fight a third landfill

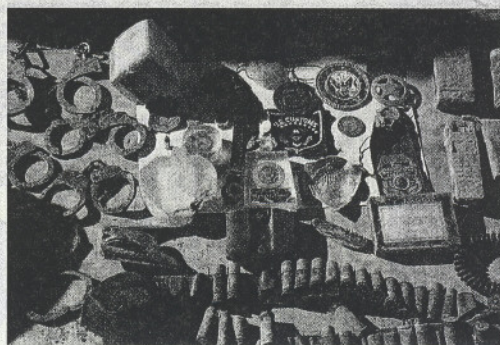
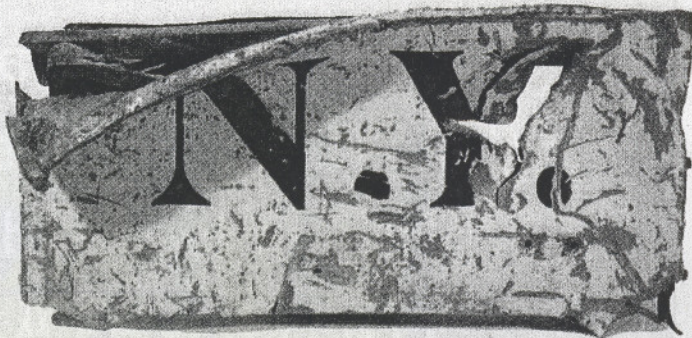
(CCHC), had won some improvements, but residents had never united to fight a major battle. When she learned a third landfill was slated for their neighborhood, Maria de Jesús Garcia took charge,

urging her neighbors to speak out. Now residents are finding a political voice—and, for the illegal immigrants among them, risking deportation.

The fight has made a difference. A local environmental group is lobbying the state to consider a landfill's social impact when granting permits. And other colonias are catching on. In nearby Rincón, residents are organizing against a feed company's drainage pools, which they say spread disease.

**In Berino, a colonia notorious for Border Patrol roundups, residents hung WE KNOW OUR RIGHTS banners in their windows and hosted legal-education sessions.**

After Garcia took a stand in Chaparral, hundreds of volunteers papered stores with fliers and took petitions door to door. The court approved the landfill permit for a private waste company but tacked on 20 regulations to help residents monitor the site. The CCHC appealed, but lost. Now it's heading for the state Supreme Court. Back in Chaparral, children clamber over a jungle gym, one of the residents' first victories. Garcia's own children have outgrown swing sets, but she keeps fighting. —SARAH CHILDRESS



**LOST AND NOW FOUND:** Fragment of a wrecked fire-engine door (top) and a variety of objects that were recovered from the Fresh Kills operation

SEPTEMBER 11

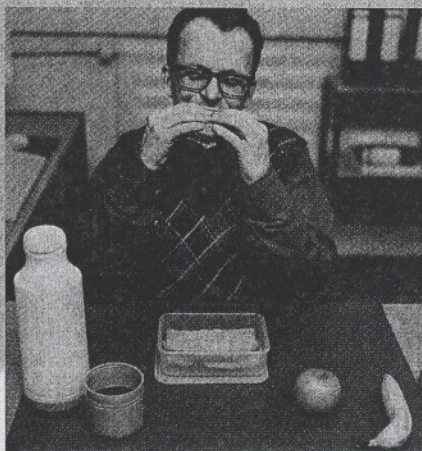
## Glimpse of a Tragedy

**M**ILLIONS WERE touched by the events of September 11, and now they're getting a chance to understand the tragedy up close. A new exhibit by the New York State Museum, "Recovery: The World Trade Center Recovery Operation at Fresh Kills," debuted in August at the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland and will travel across the country for the next three years to places like Cleburne, Texas,

and Oak Ridge, Tenn. The exhibit includes striking photographs of the 1.8 million tons of debris, plus artifacts like building façades and mangled fire-truck parts. "When you see a few pieces and then see photographs of endless piles of debris," says exhibit organizer Mark Schaming, "you begin to more viscerally understand the magnitude of the disaster." Perhaps even more so than visiting the empty pit in lower Manhattan. —JULIE SCelfO

## SURVEY OF SURVEYS Eat, Sleep and Be Married

**H**ow many employees does it take to screw in a light bulb? No joke, it takes an average of 3.3 people at a large company, says a newScale poll. Office culture can be ridiculous—and so can the surveys on it. A look: **38 percent** of employees have fallen asleep on the job. Some bosses understand: **13 percent** accept the need for sleeping areas at work (Healthworks). (Side survey: can PERI writers get in on this?) After a good nap, an employee needs a good meal—**67 percent** lunch at their desks, while **10 percent** desktop-dine for



dinner (American Dietetic Association). Their menu? Depends on the economy. People buy more beer, pickles and cheese during a recession and more ice cream and manufactured ice when incomes rise (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). The best way to get that salary boost is to get a wife—married men make **11 percent** more than unmarried men (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis). Marital status has not yet been shown to help the light-bulb situation. —ELISE SOUKUP

**IN A PICKLE:** It's a cheese kind of year