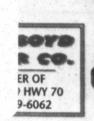


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PHS science moves into new home

by Rachel Stennett

rstennett@thepampanews.com Renovations were completed on ten science classrooms completed over the entire science department back where they belong- in the main building of the

A move that has been 18 months in the making was completed Monday and classes begin meeting in the new classrooms on Tuesday, Jan. 6.

A year and a half ago, the science department was relocated into portable buildings on the school property while the science wing of the school was renovated, according to Randy Stephenson, the district's director of new construction.

The new rooms include many upgrades, and completely new elements like 'banjo" lab tables in the biology classrooms and long, rectangle tables in the physics room.

The classrooms also featechnological upgrades like phones, and ceiling mounted projec-

The science classrooms

were remodeled as a part of ing in the football field. safety reasons," holiday break, putting the ning area for students, new challenging. gym, and new stadium seat-

the school-wide construc- Although the teachers are Shannon, department head new classrooms. The portainclude a new library, new space, the move and time explained. "It was very kitchen, new commons/din- spent in the portables was crowded."

"We were limited for the portable rooms were

Beth one-third the space of their tion project, which will all excited to be in the and Chemistry teacher bles also disconnected teachers from normal activity, including class bells, Shannon estimated that announcements, and cable

See PHS, Page 3



(From left) Beth Shannon, Debbie Brown, Dale Hodge, Neil Leeper, Lois Parker, Mistie West, and Janis Porter, all teachers of the PHS Science Department, work together Monday (Jan. 5) to unpack supplies for one of the newly renovated classrooms.

Suspicious, sweaty driver arrested on possession charges

by Rachel Stennett

rstennett@thepampanews.com Deputies stopped a vehicle in the Fenton Motors parking lot, after the driver in the car was acting suspiciously, according to Lt. Joe B. Hoard of the Gray County Sheriff's

Department. The driver, Richard Olney Stark, 41 of Pampa was seen around 4:30 p.m. Saturday (Jan. 4) walking around the lot suspiciously, even though the business was closed.

"The driver was nervous and sweating profusely in 20 degree weather," Hoard explained. The deputy gained permission to search the vehicle, and upon inspection found a small amount of what is believed to be marijuana and a small baggy containing what is



Stark was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, less than one gram and bond was set for \$3,000 at Gray County Jail. Stark paid bond and was believed to be methamphet- released from Gray County

PEDC to discuss office remodel

board members will hear a Commission's Thursday morning.

Dwight Fiveash, the next week. group's executive director, will update the PEDC board on the remodeling of their new offices at 106 N. Cuyler.

He will also update the board on pending projects, the group's strategic plan, planning goals and objectives for 2009, Worker's

Economic Compensation, the Texas Development Corporation Economic Development report on their new offices course and legislative prion Cuyler when they meet orities in the state legislative session, which begins

The Bank of the Southwest will also have new signature cards for board members.

The board will meet at 11 a.m., Thursday, in the Nona Payne Room of the Community Building, 200 N. Ballard.

Straus heir apparent for Texas speaker

AUSTIN (AP) - Rep. Joe Straus all but laid claim to the powerful office of House speaker Monday, holding a triumphant news conference in the state capitol and laying out his vision for a new era of bipartisan leadership in the Texas House.

The official vote doesn't take place until Jan. 13. Straus said 104 representatives, more than two-thirds of the chamber, supported his candidacy now that Speaker Tom Craddick has dropped out of the race.

Later Monday, state Reps. John Smithee, of Amarillo, and Dan Gattis, of Georgetown, withdrew their candidacies for speaker, saying it was apparent that Straus had enough votes to become the next speaker. Their decisions along with Craddick's leaves

Straus with no serious contenders. "In the coming days I aim to meet with every member of the Texas House to better understand the needs of their in the legislative process," Straus said. The heir-apparent to the speaker's office also paid tribute to Craddick, doned him,

ored for his historic public service." Straus said Smithee called to notify

him that he was dropping out. "John's difficult decision and gracious gesture is another step towards

unity in the House," he said. Earlier, in an interview with The Associated Press, Straus vowed to reduce the influence of special interests in Austin and promised to never use the

post for personal gain. Craddick's withdrawal made Straus the clear front-runner in the race to suc-

If Straus ends up clenching the deal, as widely expected, he'll inherit one of the most powerful positions in state government. The speaker sets the agenda in the Texas House and, in terms of political influence, is on par with the



State Rep. Joe Straus, R-San Antonio, left, leaves a rotunda districts and build trust and confidence news conference with Ken Armbrister, right, after announcing Straus has the votes and support needed to win the Texas who abruptly pulled out of the race House Speaker race, Monday, Sunday night after key supporters aban- Jan. 5, 2009, at the Capitol in Austin, Texas. (AP Photo/Austin Straus said Craddick "should be hon- American-Statesman, Rodolfo Gonzalez)

governor and lieutenant governor.

A wealthy San Antonio businessman, Straus, 49, was not measuring the curtains yet in the spacious speaker's apartment. In fact, Straus, whose teenage daughters attend school in San Antonio, said he had no plans to even live in the recently renovated capitol residence. But he told the AP he was looking ahead to the 2009 session and promised to heal wounds and push reforms in the badly divided House

Many members have long complained that Craddick, the first GOP speaker since the Civil War era, ruled with an iron-fist and gave lobbyists too

See Straus, Page 3





Wishing you a Happy and Prosperous 2009!

-From the Executive Director and Staff. of the Chamber of Commerce

PAMPA FORECAST

Wednesday

Thursday



High 60

Low 37





Low 37

Low 26

Friday

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 60. Wind chill values between 19 and 29 early. West wind between 5 and 15 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 37. West-northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64. West-northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 37. South-southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 63. Northnorthwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 26. North-northeast wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

() This information brought to you by...



Grain prices

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of White Deer for the close of the last open market day.

Wheat. 5.37 Milo. 5.38 Corn. 5.17

Cash Five results

AUSTIN (AP) — 67. Prize: \$187 drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 5-14-26-31-36. Number matching five

of five: 1. Prize: \$27,806 Matching four of five:

Results of the Cash 5 Matching three of five: 2 328 Prize: \$13 Matching two of five:

24,529. Prize: \$2 Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

Texas Two Step results

AUSTIN (AP) Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

numbers Winning drawn: 3 - 5 - 6 - 8. Bonus

Ball: 26. Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Prize: \$675,000

Number matching four of four: 28. Prize: \$735. Number matching three

of four, plus Bonus Ball: 65. Prize: \$39.

Number matching three of four: 2,098. Prize: \$16. Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1,197. Prize: \$19.

Number matching one

of four, plus Bonus Ball: 7,342. Prize: \$7. Number matching

Bonus Ball alone: 12,729. Prize: \$5.

Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing: \$900,000.

Victoria DA seeking reversal of legal ruling

VICTORIA, (AP) — A district attorney plans to ask the state's Thirteenth Court of Appeals to reverse a judge's decision allowing attorneys of Victoria officials accused of leaking information about a sex abuse case to share their respective clients' grand jury testimony.

Judge Previously,

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City Brief, deadline is still

Fri. before noon. Thanks,

Pampa News

Texas Robert Cheshire allowed the attorneys access to grand jury testimony, although they ordered to keep it secret even from each other. Cheshire ruled Monday that the three defendants could share that information.

> District Attorney Tyler Stephen said Monday that he planned to appeal Cheshire's ruling, the Victoria Advocate reported Monday in its online edition.

> Former city attorney David Smith, Police Chief Bruce Ure and Lt. Ralph Buentello are accused of interfering with the investigation into former Victoria County Sheriff Michael Ratcliff, who was accused of sexually assaulting a teenage boy. They face charges of aggravated perjury, after most of the charges they had faced were dismissed. The officials said they feared Ratcliff's investigation was being buried because he was, at the time, Tyler's chief of

staff



Memorp Cemetery & Mausoleum of Pampa 23rd St and Price Rd 665-8921

memory-gardens.tripod.com

Services tomorrow.

McDADE, Kathy Jean — 2 p.m., Memory Gardens Mausoleum, Pampa.

Kenneth Ray Black, 53

Kenneth Ray Black, 53, of Pampa, Texas, died Jan. 1, 2009, at Pampa.

Services are pending Carmichaelwith Funeral Whatley Directors.

Mr. Black was born Jan. 3, 1955, in Pampa, where he attended Pampa schools. As a young man,

he moved to Oklahoma City, Okla., to work in the oilfields.

He owned and operated K.B. Sales, specializing in oilfield perishables and supplies. Later, he returned to Pampa where he lived until the time of his death.

He liked to work on and build personal computers in his spare time. Survivors include son, Kenny Joe Black of Midwest City, Okla.; brother, Rick Stinnett of Pampa; and nephew, Tyler Jordan Fry Stinnett

Obituaries

Kenneth was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Ruth Woodward on June 22, 2008; and a

brother, Roger "Skeeter" Bridges.

MEMORIAL'S: Diabetes American Association, P.O. Box 50433, Amarillo, TX 79159.

-Sign the on-line register book www.carmichael-whatlev.com.

Kathy Jean McDade, 57

of Pampa.

Kathy Jean McDade, 57, died Jan. 2, 2009, at Skellytown.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2009, at Memory Gardens Mausoleum with the Rev. Rob Lackey and the Rev. Richard Bartel, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, officiating. will be in Burial

Gardens Memory Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Miss McDade was born

Dec. 11, 1951, in Amarillo and was a 1970 graduate of Amarillo High School. She attended Wayland Baptist University in Plainview,

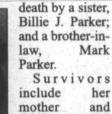
earning a degree in Psychology. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church. Kathy joined

the U.S. Navy on Sept. 23, 1977, and served until Sept. 22, 1982, being honorably discharged with the rank of E5. After serv-

ing her country, she returned to the Panhandle to be closer to her family. She lived for her family and will be greatly missed. Kathy is with our Lord and

McDade

endures no more pain. She was preceded in



stepfather, Nelda LoVell Kennard of Skellytown; her father and stepmother, Walter and

McDade Grace of Spearman; sister, Lee Tice and husband Mike of Skellytown; two brothers, Roger Kennard of Kansas and Eddie Rodgers of Spearman; niece, Kala Tice of Skellytown; four

nephews, Kory Tice and wife Kara and Mikah Tice, all of Skellytown, and Mark Parker and David Parker, both of New Braunfels; a great-niece, Breklyn Tice Skellytown; and a host of uncles, aunts and cousins.

MEMORIALS: American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065, or City of Pampa Animal Control, Fund 12, P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, TX 79066-2499.

-Sign the on-line regbook www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Emergency Services

Pampa PD

Police Pampa Department reported the following incidents and calls between 12 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 4 and 7 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6.

Sunday, Jan. 4 Officers conducted 12 traffic stops

A total of two calls and/or stops concerning animals occurred.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 200 block of North Somerville and the 100 block of North Houston.

Suspicious vehicles were reported in the 400 block of West Brown, the 500 block of South Gillespie, the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway, the 900 block of East 23rd and the 1000 block of North Sumner.

An alarm was reported in the 100 block of East Francis.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 600 block of North Somerville. A police car was egged.

A domestic disturbance with one injuries was reported in the 2100 block of North Nelson.

Motorist assistance was reported in the 200 block of South Cuyler.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1900 block of Dogwood Lane. An Oklahoma University flag was reported ripped.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 900 block of South Sumner. The windows of a vehicle were reportedly shattered by a BB gun.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1700 block

of Hamilton. A car was reportedly egged.

Criminal mischief was reported at PHS, 111 E. Harvester. A break-in reportedly occurred. A fire extinguisher was sprayed all over a computer lab, damaging nine computers, a server, a clock and three computer mice for an estimated \$70,000 in dam-

An assault with minor injuries occurred in the 1600 block of Somerville.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1900 block of Coffee, where a car was reportedly egged.

A prowler was reported in the 2300 block of North Rosewood Lane. A welfare check was

performed in the 1200 block of North Garland. Monday, Jan. 5

Officers conducted 24 traffic stops. A total of 21 calls and/or stops concerning animals

occurred. Harassment was reported in the 1000 block of South Dwight.

A missing person was reported in the 2300 block of Aspen Drive. The person was later found in

Oklahoma. Criminal mischief was reported at Russell and Randy Matson streets. Nine street signs were reportedly damaged for an estimated \$675 in dam-

A police escort was provided in the 800 block of West 23rd. An assault was reported

in the 100 block of East Harvester.

Theft was reported in the 200 block of West Foster. A fire department badge, worth an estimated \$60, was reported stolen. An abandoned vehicle

was reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart. A suspicious was reported in the 200 block of North Cuyler. A welfare check was

performed in the 600 block of North Faulkner. Agency assistance was rendered in the 600 block

of West Francis.

Alarms were reported in the 1700 block of North Hobart, twice at the same address in the 1300 block of North Hobart and twice at the same address in the 100 block of South Hobart.

A missing person was reported in the 600 block of North Gray. The person, a runaway, was later located in the 500 block of North Wynne.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 300 block of East Browning. Tuesday, Jan. 6

Officers conducted 11 traffic stops. A suspicious person was

reported at Tignor and Highway 60. A suspicious vehicle

was reported in the 300 block South . of Starkweather.

Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office recorded the following arrests. Monday, Jan. 5

Christopher Eugene Jackson, 36, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO and transferred to the custody of Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Paul Maynard Johnson, 57, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on a fugitive warrant out of Benton County, Ark., for contempt of court.

Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported no calls during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Ambulance

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls during the 24hour period ending at 7 a.m. today. Monday, Jan. 5

7:07 a.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of South Christie and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center. 9:59 a.m. - A mobile

ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo. 12 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1900

block of Hilton Road and L

transported a patient to PRMC. 1:19 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to BSA Hospital in 3

Amarillo. 3:26 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to the 600 block of North West and transported a patient to

5:40 p.m. - A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 600 block of North West.

Fire investigation could 'take weeks'

PARIS, Texas (AP) — A fire marshall said it could take weeks to determine what caused a fire that killed five residents at a homeless

'There were 21 potential witnesses that survived. Police are going to do an investigation to find out who was where and who saw what ...," said Fire Marshal Dale Maberry in an interview with Sherman television station

KXII-TV The fire happened early Monday at the shel-

ter, which is in a converted bakery in this small

Northeast Texas town.

Investigators said a roughly 25-foot-long table piled with donated clothes was being investigated as a possible starting point for the

The fire started just before 3 a.m. and sent the residents inside scrambling outside into frigid, rainy conditions. Some escaped barefoot and others left shivering without having time to grab clothes or coats.

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PHS

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access.

Contractors from Western Builders out of Amarillo have worked under Construction Superintendent Jeff Pop, to complete the project, which was designed by architects Perkhill, Smith, and Cooper, out of Lubbock. The renovations took longer than orginially exoected, according to Stephenson, because of delayed supplies and unexpected complications.

"Renovations are harder to do than building something new," he explained. "You find the unexpected when tearing down walls."

The teachers in the science department had a significant say in the matter too, according to Beth Shannon, department head.

"We were very involved in the planning. The architects had the final say because they are the experts in lab design, but Randy kept us in the loop and asked our opinions."

Chemistry and Biology teachers agree that it will be much easier to do labs in the newly designed and expanded classrooms, as Neil Leeper, biology teacher explained, "it's hard to do labs in portable buildings with no plug ins."

The new classrooms have top of the line lab equipment, Janice Porter, Biology teacher, said, as well as safe environments, and cabinets, sinks, santizers, and a dishwasher for beakers in the stalk room.

"One room has as much storage as the entire (portable) used to," Leeper explained. Teachers anticipate being able to expand curriculum with more hands-on labs, which Shannon said has proven to imrove TAX scores.

Shannon will also have the opportunity to teach in a classroom with windows for the first time in her career of more than 20 years teaching.

Movers came and moved all of the boxes from the portables to the main building, but the science teachers came in, starting Jan. 2 and have been working on their own time to make classrooms kidready today. A guest speaker, who was considered a '2009 early Christmas gift" by Shannon was arranged to speak with the students during their regular science periods, so that the teachers would be able to spend the day unpacking. Twenty teachers were able to unload materials as a result of the assemblies.

The teachers hope that the new classrooms have the impact on the students that they have already had on the teachers.

"The rooms help make us better teachers," Porter said.

"We hope kids appreciate as much as we do,"
Lois Parker, biology teacher, added.

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much sway over policy deliberations.

"There's been this feeling that from time to time there's been undue pressure and influence from special interests and I want the members to know that I'm going to protect them to do what their districts want them to do on issues," Straus said. "The lobby plays an important role in forming public policy, but they shouldn't dominate and members should feel free to act in the interests of people who sent them here.

Rep. Dan Branch, R-Dallas, said Straus is willing to reach across party lines and build consensus.

"I think Joe will go down in history as one of the great speakers because of his tone and temperament" Branch said.

GOP critics have complained that Straus has more Democrats on his team than Republicans. But Branch noted that at 76-74, the GOP's lead in the House chamber is razor

thin.

"Joe understands that even as a Republican it's critical for Texans that we have people that can reach across the aisle and work in a bipartisan way," Branch said.

Rep. Senfronia
Thompson, D-Houston,
one of the first Democrats
to file for speaker, said she
was "delightfully
shoeked" to learn that
Straus had emerged as the
front-runner earlier in the
weekend. Republicans
"couldn't have chosen a
better person to fill that
post."

"It has become apparent in the last 12 hours that Rep. Straus carries enough votes to become the next speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, and that any effort to challenge him is not in the best interest of the Texas House," Smithee and Gattis said in a statement. "Our priority is to take the focus off speaker politics and concentrate on how we can best serve the people of Texas in the 81st

Legislature." A core group of conservative Republicans, the bedrock of Craddick's old coalition, had backed Smithee over Straus. They complained that Straus was not one of them, that he's too liberal on abortion and gambling issues in particular. Straus' family has been in the horse racing business for close to 100 years, and anti-gambling forces fear he would use his powerful post to promote an expansion of

straus, whose family holds a stake in San Antonio's Retama Park horse track, said he would take a hands-off approach to gambling bills and allow the chamber to exercise its will.

"I will not be involved in an issue, any issue, where my personal interests will be advanced," Straus said in the AP interview.

"I don't have a role in Retama," he added. "I have a small limited partnership interest ... I don't have any management or decision-making role in anything related to that industry."

As for abortion, Straus noted that he supports restrictions on the procedure, including a requirement that parents give their consent before their minor

children terminate a pregnancy. But he also made it clear that he favors laws that give women abortion rights.

"I support existing laws on abortion," he said. "I believe the laws that are currently in place are not at this point a state matter."

The Straus family is prominent in business, political, arts and philanthropy circles. Branch, who grew up in San Antonio, described the family as key players in the emergence of the modern Republican party of Texas.

Besides its race track interests, the Straus family has been known for its friendship with former President George H.W. Bush and Barbara Bush. Straus, who was elected to the Texas House in 2005, held minor posts in Bush's and Ronald Reagan's presidential administrations.

Jocelyn Straus, the law-maker's mother, has served on the State Preservation Board and led an effort to restore the aging Majestic Theatre, now a crown jewel along one of downtown San Antonio's revitalized main streets.

While Straus touts his deep GOP ties, grassroots Republican activists have unleashed a torrent of emails suggesting Smithee is the better choice for conservatives.

Straus fired back at his detractors.

"That kind of politics is why we're all here today; it's what we stand against," Straus said. "I'm not going to be distracted by some interest group, or whatever, popping off about something that's not true."

Perry travels to Iraq

AUSTIN (AP)— Texas Gov. Rick Perry is in Iraq on a trip hosted by the U.S. Defense Department.

The governor's office announced Tuesday that he'd arrived in Iraq. He traveled there Monday with two other governors after a Pentagon briefing. Perry also visited soldiers in Iraq in 2006 on a trip with other governors.

For security reasons, both trips were kept under wraps until the governor arrived in Iraq.

Perry spokeswoman Allison Castle says the trip is an opportunity for Perry to visit Texas troops and to thank them for their service.

The Pampa News 669-2525



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Viewpoints

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 6, the 6th day of 2009. There are 359 days left in the year. Highlights in history on this date:

1492 - King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella ride victoriously into Granada after their armies defeat Boabdil, the last Muslim ruler of Spain, completing the Christian reconquest of Spain.

1810 - Turkey agrees to Russia's annexation of the Crimea and Kuban with the enactment of the Treaty of Constantinople.

1838 - Samuel Morse first publicly demonstrates his telegraph, in Morristown, New Jersey. 1912 - New Mexico becomes 47th U.S. state.

1942 - The Pan American Airways Pacific Clipper arrives in New York after making the first round-theworld trip by a commercial airplane. 1950 - Britain rec-

ognizes

Communist govern-

Mohammad Reza

Pahlavi launches his

"white revolution,"

including redistrib-

uting land to peas-

ants and giving

Communist leaders

vote to disband their

1990 - Polish

women the vote.

1963 - Iran's Shah

ment of China.

There may be Peace without Jov. and Joy without Peace, but the two combined make Happiness.

- John Buchan, 1st Baron Tweedsmuir Scottish author

party and form a new leftist party under a different name.

1994 - The Mexican government flies tons of food to San Cristobal De Las Casas in Chiapas state, where Indian rebels are staging an uprising; figure skater Nancy Kerrigan is clubbed on the leg by an assailant in Detroit. Four men, including the ex-husband of Kerrigan's skating rival, Tonya Harding, are sentenced to prison.

1996 - Rebels raiding a village in northern India shoot and kill 15 Hindu men after pulling them from their beds and separating them from Muslims.

2002 - U.S. Special Forces and allied Afghan fighters return empty-handed from a four-day manhunt aimed at extracting Taliban supreme leader Mullah Mohammed Omar from his alleged mountain hideout in southern Afghanistan.

2005 - A baby boy is declared China's 1.3 billionth citizen in a blaze of publicity to promote the government's controversial "one child" birth limits.

2006 - Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez threatens to seize control of coffee-producing companies, or even nationalize them, if they refuse to sell the product at government-controlled prices.

2007 - Bahraini authorities revoke the citizenship of athlete Mushir Salem Jawher for competing in the Tiberias Marathon in Israel, saying Jawher broke the laws of Bahrain which does not recognize the Jewish

2008 - Mikhail Saakashvili is elected to a second term as Georgia's president. Thousands of opposition protesters denounce the election as fraudulent.

Today's Birthdays: Joan of Arc, French leader and saint (1412-1431); Max Bruch, German composer (1838-1920); Kahlil Gibran, Lebanese-American philosopher (1883-1931); Carl Sandburg, U.S. poet (1878-1967); Kim Dae-jung, South Korean president (1925-); E. L. Doctorow, U.S. author (1931-); Rowan Atkinson, English actor/comedian (1955—

The White Collar Lament

By Martha Randolph Carr

Throughout history, ever since the first time a caveman realized a rock could be used as a tool, the guy who could use his brain more than his hands was thought to be protected by new technology. His career aspirations would only be enhanced by whatever new gadget someone was about to introduce. That idea stood for a million years.

The ones who used their hands or their backs in order to build the shiny new object were thought to be marking time till technology would trump them and they'd have to learn an entire set of skills all over again.

As we age that's an increasingly uncomfortable thought particularly for those of us who weren't texting our BFF's during recess. Our brain is already crowded with kid's sports schedules, PIN numbers and deadlines. Throw in the desire to keep job security, hanging onto healthcare benefits and providing for the family and it's a sizeable dose of anxiety.

But it's been preached to us from every quarter for two hundred years that getting a college degree would prevent most of those hiccups. There may be layoffs during a steep recession but they won't last and in the end those with degrees will have richer lives and cushier retirements.

Welcome to 2009 and a reality check right on the heels of the death of the old adage that real estate is always a good investment or brokers make money even in bad markets. The end of that last one is probably making a few people smile as they

hold their most recent 401k state- many voices are always a big plus to ment. Apparently there is a limit to how much the financial system can be exploited.

It turns out though there is an old saying that still has a lot of staying power. Why buy the cow when you can get the milk for free? This time it applies to old school journalists many of whom found themselves out on the street this summer.

Their situation does has something to do with the possible economic depression that's all around but it also has a lot more to do with how a very old profession is morphing right now into something new.

Many people are now getting their news from the internet, which would be fine if they were turning to reliable sources such as the web sit for their local paper. However, that new craze, the personal blog, has a lot of newcomers who've never taken a class or worked under an experienced editor reporting what they see as the news with their own take on it. Pundits gave them the idea and it's become commonplace to see someone reported as a suspect with a lot of innuendo that makes them look guilty before a trial.

A lot of the changes to the way we gather, report and then disseminate the news will turn out to be very good ones. New perspectives and the ability to write in depth about more local topics could help all of us to know our own communities and each other on a deeper, richer level.

But here's what's getting lost in the mix, at least for the moment. While

journalism untrained ones run the risk of getting the story wrong and inadvertently hurting someone else. Checking the facts, sticking to professional sources and just knowing the difference between hearsay and something verifiable takes time to learn and use proficiently.

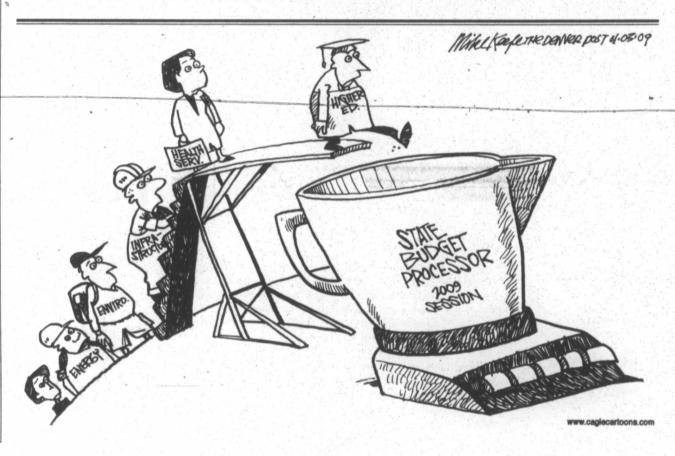
Also, while it's helpful and definitely quicker to go to those sites that cater to our specific interests we lose the opportunity a general news source gives us to learn something about a range of other topics.

That's very beneficial for creating tolerance in a diverse world and can open some people up to new ideas for their lives they would have never come across if they'd stuck to a more defined path.

However, as Americans we may veer too far to either side when given a brand new toy but eventually we find the limits and once again seek balance. That will happen for journalists, bloggers and readers as well as we seek newer definitions of reporting news versus spreading rumors that are adapted to an internet

The real question in the meantime is what the price may be before we realize it's time to start asking questions again and stop relying on what we read in someone's posting.

Martha Randolph Carr's latest book, A Place to Call Home, a memoir about the reemergence of U.S. orphanages is available wherever books are sold.



THE PAMPA NEWS

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Other views

Worth Star-Telegram on health care:

At first blush, it may seem startling that the health insurance industry is proposing to accept everyone as a customer regardless of the state of their health. But keeping one's cynicism in check is difficult when the net result would likely be a huge increase in taxpayer funding and, of course, industry profits.

The insurance industry's two largest trade groups Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association and America's Health Insurance Plans recently pledged their support for national universal health coverage if there were an enforceable requirement that everyone buy insurance.

The significance of the insurance industry's position is that it played a leading role in killing President Bill Clinton's 1994 universal health coverage plan.

The industry's proposal was silent on several important issues:

Health insurance premiums have doubled in cost since 2000. The estimated 47 million uninsured Americans demographically have the worst health because they have either foregone health care because of cost, or they

ance because they have expensive chronic conditions. If insurance companies used community rating meaning each customer pays the same rate regardless of health status everyone's insurance bill would spike steeply even with utility-style rate regulation (which the industry loathes). If they continued current underwriting policies, then the uninsured would not be able to afford it anyway. Either way, the insurance companies clearly expect the taxpay-

ers to come to the rescue. Few would be able to stomach seeing people thrown in jail for not being able to pay for health insurance. Tax penalties or fines are useless if you don't have the money in the first place.

Many politicians and policy experts have urged the government to offer a public insurance plan that would extend Medicare and Medicaid to those willing to pay modest premiums. A competitive federal plan could leverage its huge buying power and low administrative costs. The insurance industry would squawk loudly about this, but it might be the best way to cover

Many blame the insurance industry for high

many affordably.

have been denied insur- health care costs. But high premiums are symptoms of the sector's runaway inflation. Any major health care overhaul discussion should include cost containment as a key compo-

> Salem News, Salem, Mass., Friday, Jan. 2, 2009:

> On Nov. 4, a majority of voters in Massachusetts chose to decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana. Those with less than an ounce of marijuana are no longer charged with a criminal offense but

> instead face a \$100 fine. Today, the new law takes effect. Yet police departments across the state say they are uncertain how to enforce it. The state **Executive Office of Public** Safety and Security just Monday issued guidelines for enforcement of the law.

> Nearly two months have passed since 65 percent of Massachusetts changed the law. Despite their lack of enthusiasm for the law, state and local law enforcement agencies have had time to prepare.

Under the new law, people caught with a small amount of marijuana will be forced to hand over the drug and pay a \$100 fine. Those under 18 will be required to complete a

drug awareness program or face a stiffer \$1,000 fine. They can either pay a fine to a clerk or request a District Court hearing.

To be sure, the new law does raise questions. Police are now required to issue civil citations, essentially tickets, to violators. Police have books of citations to issue to those who violate motor vehicle laws. These are carefully worded to conform to the existing laws and explain the violator's rights and

responsibilities. This should not be so difficult. Massachusetts is not the first state to decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana. Eleven other states have done so. Is there no experience from those states that Massachusetts law enforcement officials can draw upon?

It's apparent that the will of the voters, for good or ill, was that simple possession of marijuana should be treated as a trivial matter. Pay a small fine and be done with it. The best course for police is to enforce the law as written and expend as few resources as possible

doing so. The public doesn't see small amounts of marijuana as a problem. Neither should police.

Comics

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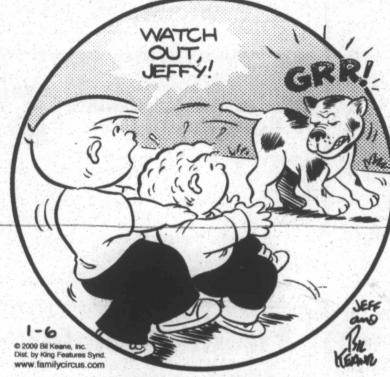
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"Why are you returning this? Wrong color? Broken squeaker? Tastes yucky?"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"That's a terrierIST!"

2 Computer

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8 Sentence

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9 Stellar

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Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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41 John Belushi movie

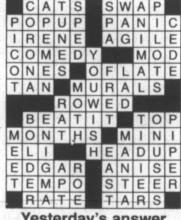
44 "Get lost!" 45 Restaurant

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DOWN

1 Farm animal



Yesterday's answer

31 Acrobat's

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35 Formerly

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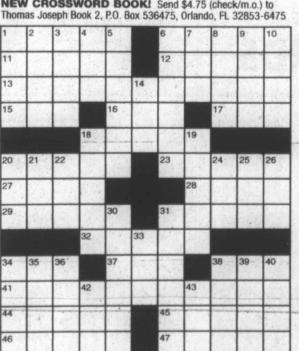
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40 Tavern 42 Furning 43 Granola crime

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Area Manager Larry Ingrum

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Events and opportunitites

reception for Charles Firestone from 2:30-4 p.m. Jan. 11 in Hazlewood Gallery of the museum. Firestone is from Dalhart. He has studied under Dord Fitz and other artists. He belongs to several area art groups as a student and as an instructor. Firestone works primarily in oils but also uses watercolor, pastels, acrylics and personal photographs. A wide range of subjects from landscapes to portraits will be on display at the museum. For more information, call the museum at (806) 537-3524.

0.18

 The 26th Annual Benefit Bridal Show will be staged from 12:30-4:30 p.m. Jan. 11 in the Heritage Ball Room of Amarillo Civic Center in Amarillo by Bride's World. The event will include 100 merchants, continuous modeling of bridal wear, a silent auction and a grand prize giveaway. Tickets will be \$6 at the door or may be purchased in advance at www.bridesworld.com on the Internet.

 Pampa Book Club will meet at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month in the Texas Room of Lovett Memorial Library. The 2009 reading schedule is as follows: Jan. 14, "The Last Lecture" by Randy Pausch; Feb. 11, "Three Cups of Tea" by Greg Mortenson and Davie Relin; March 11, "Home: A Memoir of My Early Years" by Julie Andrews; and April 8, "The Glass Castle" by Jeannette Walls. The May 13 book for review will be announced at a later date. Public welcome.

 The South Plains Agriculture fruit and breakfast rolls to enjoy. Wind and Wildlife Conference will begin with registration at 7:30 a.m. Feb. 13 at the American Wind Power Center and Museum in Lubbock. The confer- its kind in the entire country. Mark your

• T.O.P.S. Club, a weight loss group, Wildlife Association, and Texas Parks is seeking new members. The club meets and Wildlife. The purpose of the conferfrom 5:30-6:30 p.m. each Monday at ence is to explore the pros and cons 513 E. Francis. New members welcome. associated with the industry in Texas. · Carson County Square House For more information, call Ken Cearley, Museum in Panhandle will host an artist Extension wildlife specialist, at (806) 651-5760.

· Fawn Lake Press is offering free "Proud to be an American" flag decals to anyone sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Fawn Lake Press, 54 Fawn Lake Rd., Durango, CO 81301. Active servicemen and women need not send a SASE to receive the free 2 x 3inch color decals. Fawn Lake will pay their postage.

· Manhattanville My Soldier is seeking volunteers to "adopt" a deployed United States Serviceperson. find out more, www.mysoldier.com on-line or write to: Manhattanville College My Soldier Department, 2900 Purchase St., Purchase, NY 10577.

· Cowboy Poetry Breakfast-This Saturday, January 10, the monthly Cowboy Poetry Breakfast will be at the Big Texan Steak Ranch in Amarillo from 8-10 a.m. The public is invited to

Don DeHay, cowboy poet, storyteller, singer, and songwriter, and Bob Muncy, rancher and new poet will be featured as the headliners. Bill Crenshaw of Canyon, newly 'elected President, cowboy poet and storyteller, will serve as emcee. Members of the Southwest Cowboy Poets Association will follow the headliner with more music, and cowboy poetry.

Chuckwagon breakfast includes all the fixin's, with the addition of omelets,

Scheduled on the second Saturday morning each month, this event, as far as we know, is the only breakfast event of ence is being conducted by Texas calendar to attend this outstanding fami-AgriLife Extension Service, Texas ly entertainment.

Judge reduces man's sentence in WVa cattle scam

West Virginia bank president who coop- investigate the fallout from the scam. erated with federal officials in investigating a cattle and banking scam has resident Kevin O'Brien fraudulently gotten two months shaved off his prison

U.S. District Judge Thomas Johnston Illinois and Nebraska. reduced Charles Henthorn's from nine months to seven months.

he First National Bank of Ronceverte bribes from O'Brien.

BECKLEY, W.Va. (AP) — A former has cooperated with authorities as they

Prosecutors say Greenbrier County sold the same herd of cattle to different buyers in West Virginia, Virginia, Texas,

In October, O'Brien was sentenced to eight years in prison.

The 48-year-old former president of Henthorn was convicted of taking



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OR AL COFFEE MAKERS; IEG. OI MASTER BLEND May Well House Coffee	\$599	ASSORTED VARIETIES 50 OZ. LIQUID DETERGENT PUREX 2X
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Santy Towels	\$599	Tomato Ketchup 34 02.
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QUAKER ASSORTED FLAVORS	35 OZ 2 FOR 3	ORVILLE REDENBACHER'S SELECTED VARIETIES MICROWAVE POPCORN
Pork and Beans	15 OZ 3 FOR 2	Del Monte Fruit
SELECTED VARIETIES WHOLE, DICED, OR STEWED	14-145 OZ. 4 FOR 5	Tomato Sauce 102 2 Por
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FRESH PRODUCE SPECIALS	DAIRY & FROZEN SPECIALS
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\$299 CELLO WILLIAM TO C	BLUE BUNNY ASSORTED FLAVOR S 6 ICE Cream S 4 OZ SQUARES 2 FOR
H MINNEOLA 199	YOGURT SHOOTHIE, HOMENADE VAMILLA ICE CREAM BARS, SWEET FREEDOM ICE CREAM LITES, OR KRUNCH LITES Blue Bunny Novelties
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PAMPA NEWS

TAKIN' A NICE BITE



photo by Rachel Stennett

(Front, left) Danny Martin, president of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Officer Stormy McCullar, and Tony Santacruz with Celanese Employees Club hold an enlarged check for \$5,050 dollars to purchase a new McGruff costume and crime prevention items for the Pampa Police Department. The money was donated from four local businesses. In the back row are Officer Jon Hammond, Interim Police Chief Donny Brown, and Officer Jason Rushing. Representatives from Bowers Ranch and Gonzales Tires are not pictured.

Social Security taking online applications

Administration, bracing for the coming eligibility of 80 million baby officer. boomers, is introducing efits in as little as 15 min-

utes Social Security Commissioner Michael J. Astrue said in an interview the agency was completely overhauling its electronic services in and the need to more efficiently process the coming flood of applications.

infrastructure to handle with my limited (com- Online for Retirement that workload in the traditional fashion," he said. Astrue said a person ly.'

The agency says that an online application that over the next 20 years paper forms to sign and will allow people to some 10,000 people a usually requires no addiapply for retirement ben- day will become eligible tional documents. In the for retirement.

Academy Award-winthe new program, shoot- copies of birth certifirecognition of the greater and television. The ads can still call the agency computer skills of future are takeoffs of her 1960s or visit an office. Social Security recipients TV sitcom "The Patty Duke Show."

"My husband demonstrated to me how to do www.socialsecurity.gov "We just don't have the it, and I was able to do it and click on "Filing" puter) skills," she said. Benefits.' "It was very user-friend-

WASHINGTON (AP) who now goes to a Social The agency also plans The Social Security Security office to apply to run full-page ads in spends about 45 minutes USA Today and several consulting with a field news magazines, Astrue said.

> The program has no past, people trying to sign up through the ning actress Patty Duke Internet still had to mail is leading a Retire Online in or deliver paper docupublicity campaign for ments with signatures or ing four public service cates. Those with more ads that will run on radio complicated questions

Those wanting to use the new program can go





Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing regarding "Perplexed in South Dakota" (Oct. 15), who said "terrible things" to her friend in anger. The friend forgave her, but did not wish to continue the friendship.

I have been in that position, but my situation went beyond hurtful words. At the time, I was in a great deal of emotional pain and was devastated because I trusted the people involved. I struggled with forgiving them, and I am happy to say that I recently did.

Through the process, I learned two important lessons: First, forgiveness has everything to do with me and very little to do with the offender. By letting go of the hurt, I freed myself from the emotional bondage I was in.

The second lesson I learned was that forgiveness does not mean reconciliation. When you lose trust in someone, it takes time to regain it. Sometimes the damage

never fully be repaired. -- BEEN THERE SPRINGFIELD. MASS

DEAR BEEN THERE: Thank you for sharing what you learned. I told "Perplexed" that even though her friend no longer holds a grudge, she may consider "Perplexed" too dangerous to allow back in her life. Readers agreed with my advice that "Perplexed" watch what she says in anger in the future and cited their own experiences. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: One of my best friends and I had a falling-out some time ago due to a misunderstanding (I'll spare you the details). It was very painful for both of us.

She cut off contact with me first, and it was devastating. Despite my efforts, she apparently needed time to gather her thoughts and feelings. After a year and a half she called me. apologized and said she hoped we could pick up where we had left off. The

problem is: I can't. I was hurt to the core.

I still stay in touch with her, but my heart is no longer where it was, Although I miss her, I still resent her misjudgment of my loyalty. Forgiveness has many levels, and one level may be that of closure. -- NOT THE SAME IN THE EAST

DEAR ABBY: It is interesting that after saying terrible things to her friend, "Perplexed" did not apologize for several weeks, waited for her ex-friend to contact her, and apologized only after being informed by the friend that she was ending the friendship. The apology was self-serving, given only to convince her friend not to dump her. Why didn't she call immediately after realizing that what she

said was awful? In addition, her apology was in writing, instead of on the phone or in person, to avoid the discomfort of facing her friend. The message this

President Bush wants gate near new home

wants a gate installed along a public street to limit

The Dallas Morning News of The News: on Monday that the president, who is expected to move into the new Preston Hollow home in two gate for security reasons placed somewhere along the entrance to streets leading to his future residence.

Federal money would pay for the gate, not the city, said Suhm. It's unclear how residents would use the gate to get to their homes. Wherever the gate goes, public access to Daria Place — the high-end street where the Bushes' 8,500square-foot ranch home sits will soon be a thing of the past.

The plan, which requires approval by the Dallas City Council, isn't expected to meet with much opposition there, and the Bushes' neighbors seem to be on board, the newspaper reported.

Residents have said that it isn't uncommon for cars

loaded with onlookers to President George W. Bush pull up and take pictures of the house.

"It's great the Bushes are access to his new home in moving here, and it's great an affluent Dallas neight that they're doing whatever borhood, city officials said. they need to do," Alan Bell, Dallas City Manager a Daria Drive resident, said Mary Suhm confirmed to in Monday's online edition

The City Council is expected to vote on permitting the gate's construction this month, possibly as weeks, is seeking to have a soon as its Jan. 14 meeting, City Hall officials say.

An aide to first lady Laura Bush declined to comment on the gate, calling it a security matter, the newspaper reported.

Bush has the Texas Legislature and his father, former President George H.W. Bush, to thank for the possibility to place a gate across a taxpayer funded street in Texas.

In May 1993, shortly

after George H.W. Bush left the White House for Houston, the Legislature passed a little-noticed bill that allows cities to restrict access to streets "on which the dwelling of a former president of the United States is located." The Houston City Council later voted to allow gates at two streets leading to the Army officials say force is ready to shift

FORT BLISS, Texas (AP) — The Army's top officials. said Monday the mammoth force is ready to shift its combat focus from Iraq to Afghanistan.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. told reporters Monday the fight in Afghanistan won't be very different from what many soldiers have already seen in Iraq.

"The types of operations they will conduct and need to conduct are about the same," Casey said of the two war fronts. "The type of warfare is not decidedly different when you shift from Iraq to Afghanistan."

The largest difference, Casey said, will likely be the mountainous and rural terrain that many soldiers haven't seen in Iraq, where urban combat has become the norm. Cultural and historical differences between the Arab and Afghan communities will also be significant, he said.

Casey, Secretary of the Army Pete Geren and Sgt. Major of the Army Kenneth O. Preston were at the sprawling desert post just outside El Paso on Monday to announce a yearlong program to honor noncommissioned officers, enlisted soldiers who hold the rank of sergeant or above.

Geren said the yearlong program, dubbed Year of the NCO, will be used to recognize the corps of soldiers who have taken on significant day-to-day leadership of junior enlisted soldiers currently fighting in Iraq Afghanistan. The effort will also be used as a recruiting tool "to inform young people what NCOs do for our Army and help them better understand what an exciting opportunity and a career being an NCO in the United States Army can be."

In a morning meeting with reporters, Casey said it was unclear how many soldiers currently set to deploy to Iraq this year, including two brigade combat teams from Fort Bliss, may be diverted to Afghanistan

"It's too early to tell on specific brigades," the Army's top general said.

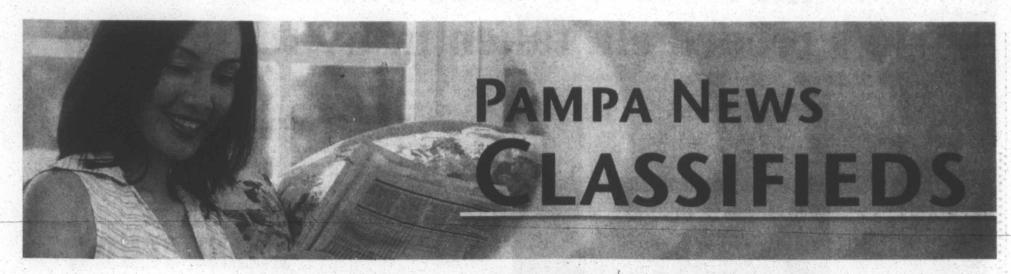
The three Army leaders also discussed the future of the Army's modernization program, Future Combat Systems.

Casey and U.S. Rep. Silvestre Reyes, a staunch supporter of the program, said they don't see the FCS being cut any time

reluctant apology sends is that she was never going to apologize unless and until she stood to lose some-

I see no true remorse -only indignation that her friend is not "forgiving" her correctly. Some people need to learn what a proper apology is. -- SEEN IT BEFORE UPSTATE N.Y.

DEAR ABBY: Perhaps this example will help "Perplexed" better understand why the friend to whom she said hurtful words couldn't forgive and forget: Take a jar of nails and hammer them into a wooden fence. Imagine that each and every nail is a cruel or unkind word. Now remove each nail one by one, apologizing each time you do. When you are done, stand back and look at the fence. The nails are gone, but the holes remain. Cruel words can leave wounds that no amount of apology can fully erase. --LIVING BY THAT EXAMPLE IN CALIF.





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with tanker endoresement. Drug test required. Call Brad 216-0960, 256-5188

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DAILY HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday,

Sometimes this year you feel out of sync Though you are even and stable, you discover the plusses of adapting a more light and intellectual attitude. Bring others in when facing a situation or problem, and ask for new thoughts and approaches. You discover being less rigid and more open draws success, greater interpersonal warmth and a sense of inner peace. If you are single, you could meet someone at the least anticipated moment. This person might help you manifest an innate talent, as well as build your security. Don't hold back. If you are attached, the two of you create a key financial goal. The happiness you experience as a couple is close to unbeatable! GEMINI demonstrates a totally different approach to life, love and work. Observe.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-1 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult 4-Positive;

ARIES (March 21-April 19) **** You have a lot of bounce and can deal with many different and sometimes challenging situations. Tap into your leadership skills. Others are relieved to see you take charge. Brainstorm with a key person. Tonight: Burning the candle at both ends, but

know that your energy is limited.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ** Be willing to reach past the obvious. You could be exhausted by a situation that keeps repeating itself. Know when to halt a trend rather than keep pushing in the same direction. If you need some thinking time, feel free to take just that Tonight: Treat yourself. GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

**** Though you might encounter the same issues as others, your positive attitude and high energy carry you over the bumps. Someone appears to be on your team, much more so than you thought. Tonight: Give yourself an ear-

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

** Know when to cut out and allow others to handle a problem. You might mull over a situation and consider your options. Others are more proactive than in the past, allowing you to be reflective. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) **** Zero in on what is important rather than what you think you need. The urge for playfulness and good times cannot be suppressed no matter what. Friends surround you and allow you to be that external extrovert. Tonight: VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

*** Take a must-do situation and make it positive. Your creativity flourishes beyond present issues. If you are open to new possibilities and allow more creativity to come in, you'll succeed beyond your imagination. Tonight: A must

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

*** If possible, create more of a friendly atmosphere around your workplace, or consider a home office. In this type of situation, you'll flourish and come up with more progressive and dynamic ideas. Brainstorm with a friend to make your work more reflective. Tonight: Say yes to a family member. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** Speak your mind with the knowledge that others do listen, even if

they seem distracted. Stay on top of your

game, completing as much as you can.

interpersonal skills. Tonight: Hang out. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **** Defer to others and find out what is going on behind the scenes. If you want a major change or transformation, investigate your potential financial

Nix quiet work, and demonstrate your

power. Extremes and a need to have your way at home emerge. Tonight: Defer, defer and defer (if you want peace). CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** You earn your reputation today Others count on your sense of responsi bility and ability to go into situations

deeper than many. Revise your approach

Brainstorm away. Tonight: Listen to the AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **** Where others could feel down and out, you come out on top. Manifest your sense of humor, not only in fun interactions, but also in a bleak issue. A detachment naturally occurs with this

approach. Tonight: Fun times are here. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) *** Pressure builds on the home front. If you are dealing with property, try not to make any decisions if possible. You learn through events that your goals are changing, and rapidly at that! Tonight: Mosey on home

BORN TODAY Singer, songwriter Kenny Loggins (1948), news anchor Katie Couric (1957), actor Nicolas Cage (1964)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2009 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

662-8615.

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

Classifieds Work!

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTE

ML QFWWAG JLS QTHJ HFWR

ZXNJW, WJAGA FBSFPR RAAQ

WL DA KBAMWP LZ UXWWAMR.

FDGFJFQ BXMHLBM Yesterday's Cryptoquote: A FEW MORE PAYMENTS AND THE CHRISTMAS PRESENT YOU GAVE YOUR WIFE WILL BE HERS. — RELIEVED HUSBAND

REAL ESTATE & ESTATE AUCTION SAT. JAN. 10, 2009-9:43 A.M.

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Larry Hadley, Real Estate Salesman, HouseHunters, Pampa, TX 806-662-2779 Broker Linda Laycock

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multi-tasking, heavy report writing, coordinating and scheduling abilities a must; legal

knowledge and grantwriting a plus. Resumes may be faxed to 669-8050, mailed to P.O. Box 1592, Pampa, TX 79066, or delivered in person to District Attorney's Office, Gray Co. Courthouse, 200

Russell, 4th Floor. **CUSTODIAN** WANTED White Deer ISD has immediate opening for Full-Time Custodian. Benefits included. High School Diploma GED preferred. Call Miriam Lynch, Elementary Principal, 806-883-2311, Ext, 201. Appli-

cations avail. at Adm. Bldg., 601 Omohundro St., White Deer, TX. 79097, or 806-883-2311 Above Mgr. needed for oilfield average pay & trip fee. serv. business. Apply in Nurses By Prescription, person, 226 S. Price Rd. GRAY County Adult Probation Dept. is seek- FOR Sale: Rocker Reing a Community Serv- cliner & Loveseat. 806-

ice Restitution Coordinator. Qualified applicant will be responsible for setting up & over-seeing all Community Service Projects for the ditional responsibilities assigned by the Direc-Must have good com. skills & be able to (willing

NICE pecan hutch, some travel involved;

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Boone and Crockett Club confirms new world's record elk taken in by Idaho man

Mont. Perhaps the largest elk ever produced in the wild a Utah bull taken in 2008 by a hunter on public land has been confirmed as a new World,s Record. The official declaration was made Friday by the Boone and Crockett Club.

A special judges panel determined a final score of 478-5/8 B&C non-typical points, an incredible 93plus inches above the Boone and Crockett minimum score of 385 for nontypical American elk, and more than 13 inches larger than the previous World,s Record.

It is the only elk on record with a gross score approaching the 500-inch mark, at 499-3/8. Official data dates back to 1830.

The giant bull has 9 points on the left antler and 14 points on the right. The larger antler has a base circumference topping 9 inches.

The Boone and Crockett scoring system, long used to measure the success of wildlife conservation and management programs across North America. rewards antler size and symmetry, but also recognizes nature, s imperfections with non-typical categories for most antlered game. The bull, s final score of 478-5/8 inches includes an amazing 140 inches of abnormal points.

"Along with measurements that honor the quality of the animal, Boone and Crockett Club records also honor fair-chase hunting," said Eldon Buckner, chairman of the Club,s American Big Game com-

mittee. "Through our entry

process, signed affidavits and follow-up interviews with the hunter, his guides, and state and federal officials, we were satisfied that this bull was indeed a wild, free-ranging trophy

Crockett Club, Buckner congratulated Austad and-credited his the Utah Division of



This elk, killed in Sept., 2008 by Denny Austad in south central Utah has been declared a world record by the Boone and Crocket Club.

Wildlife Resources and the

deserve a pat on the back,

as do the citizens of Utah

for their support of their

state, s wildlife programs,"

Across North America,

ever-improving conserva-

tion practices have trans-

lated to flourishing big

game populations, with

balanced age-class and

mature, trophy animals.

"Utah's conservation

Fishlake National Forest.

professionals

said Buckner.

and that the tenets of fair chase were used in the har-

hunter, Denny Austad of Ammon, Idaho, hunted the Monroe Mountain District in southcentral Utah. Hunting with self-designed rifle, Austad killed the bull on Sept. 30, 2008. He hunted for 13 days before connecting with the trophy, dubbed "spider bull" for its unique antler configura-

On behalf of the Boone Over the past 30 years.

new World,s Record to the tremendous? management of habitat and wildlife by

qualifying Boone and Crockett records book entries for American elk have increased 193 percent from a total of 14 in 1977 to 41 in 2007.

Across all categories of native North American big game, the overall trend is even higher with 344 qualifiers in 1977 up to 1,151 in 2007 a 234 percent

The previous World's Record for non-typical American elk was 465-2/8 B&C points. That bull was found dead, frozen in Upper Arrow Lake, B.C., in 1994, and was entered into Boone and Crockett Club records by the provincial Ministry of Environment on behalf of the citizens of British Columbia.

For hunter-taken nontypical American elk, the previous top bull scored 450-6/8 B&C points, taken in 1998 in Apache County, Ariz., by Alan Hamberlin.

The Boone and Crockett Club also keeps records for Roosevelt's and Tule elk. World,s Records for these categories are substantially smaller than those for American elk.

About the Boone and Crockett Club

Founded by Theodore Roosevelt in 1887, the Boone and Crockett Club promotes guardianship and visionary management of big game and associated wildlife in North America. The Club maintains the highest standards of fairchase sportsmanship and habitat stewardship, and is the universally recognized keeper of the records of native North American big game. Member accomplishments include protecting Yellowstone and establishing Glacier and Denali national parks, founding the National Forest Service, National Park and National Service Wildlife Refuge System, fostering the Pittman-Robertson and Lacey Acts, creating the Federal Duck

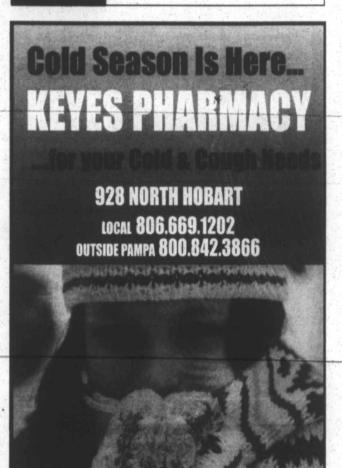
Stamp program, and developing the cornerstones of modern game laws. The Boone and Crockett Club headquartered Missoula, Mont. details, visit www.booneandcrockettclub.com.

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