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"Monty the mechanic" signs for mayoral run

by Rachel Stennett rstennett@thepampanews.com Monty Danner, or as his campaign refers to him, "Monty the Mechanic" officially threw in his hat into the mayoral candidate race at 2:37 p.m. Thursday, which started last week

May. This isn't the first time Danner has run for Mayor, but as he is the lone candidate in the race so far, he explained things might be different from his attempt in 2002.

"I'm a regular guy," Danner said. "That's what people in this town need, I

scarred of me."

"regular guy" approach has been used in other campaigns, including the recent Presidential election with the icon "Joe the Plumber.'

Danner explained his desire to be Mayor is simple, but he anticipates it being effective. Danner said he wants change in Pampa that he feels hasn't been accomplished through Lonny Robbins, mayor for the past four terms, a total of eight

"There still is nothing accomplished," he said.

don't want people to be Some of Danner's concerns with Pampa are with with activities for kids, people leaving the city because of closing businesses like Celanese, and with the PEDC. As mayor, Danner said he also would work on the "horrible streets" and even spend some time working with

> the animal shelter. Danner currently is a Senior Field Technician for Compressor Systems Incorporated, but if elected would only work as mayor, allowing him to get involved with the fire

See MAYOR, Page 3

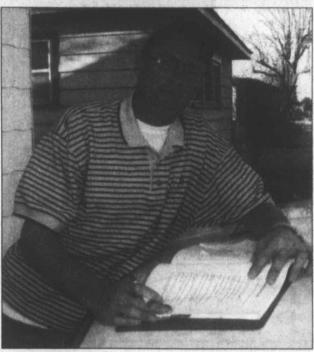


photo by Rachel Stennett Monty Danner stands next to his truck and reviews his application papers for the City of

## Pampa mayor position. PEDC asked to help pay for water park, playground improvements



staff photo by David Bowser

AUSTIN (AP) — The

appointed his leadership

team Thursday, answering

the questions of how he

much influence under the

House

Straus

waiting game is over.

Republican

Speaker Joe

Inez Carter Park is one of four where the city is planning to install new playground equipment at a cost of \$250,000. The city wants the Pampa Economic Development Corporation to put up another \$250,000 to improve playground equipment at six other parks.

by David Bowser

dbowser@thepampanews.com The Pampa Economic Development Corporation board of directors is considering a number of projects today after hearing requests for funding during their monthly meeting

The PEDC board held two public hearings

Thursday. The first public hearing was on a request by Gerald and Monica Urban with Hidden Acres R.V. to install a six-inch water line and fire hydrant to meet city codes in order to expand their RV park by adding 20 new hookups at 1708 W. Kentucky. The grant would be contingent on the Urbans' ability to get financing for 20 hookups and start construction.

The second hearing was with regard to a cooperative agreement between Entrepreneur

Highlights from the

Alliance, Inc., and the PEDC. It would provide \$35,000 a year for a consultant to help existing and new retail businesses.

No action was taken on either proposal.

**Family Water Park** Assistant City Manager Shane Stokes talked to the board about contributing to a family water park

"I just here asking for your financial help," Stokes told them. "As much as you can. What every you can do would be greatly appreciated."

The city has voted to use Certificates of Obligation to raise \$9 million. One third of that would go to build the water park.

Stokes said he hopes the PEDC will match the city's \$3 million commitment, but he is also seeking donations from individuals and from civic groups. He said he's also

See PEDC, Page 3

# Pampa man arrested anhydrous ammonia

A traffic stop by the Gray County Sheriff's Office Wednesday night resulted in an arrest for transport of

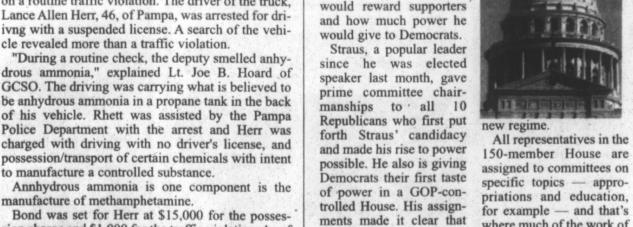
Deputy Rhett Rollins pulled over a Dodge truck on a routine traffic violation. The driver of the truck, Lance Allen Herr, 46, of Pampa, was arrested for driivng with a suspended license. A search of the vehicle revealed more than a traffic violation.

"During a routine check, the deputy smelled anhydrous ammonia," explained Lt. Joe B. Hoard of GCSO. The driving was carrying what is believed to be anhydrous ammonia in a propane tank in the back of his vehicle. Rhett was assisted by the Pampa Police Department with the arrest and Herr was charged with driving with no driver's license, and possession/transport of certain chemicals with intent to manufacture a controlled substance.

Annhydrous ammonia is one component is the

Bond was set for Herr at \$15,000 for the possession charge and \$1,000 for the traffic violation. As of

According to Hoard, annhydrous ammonia must be transported in approved containers, and propane



specific topics - appropriations and education, for example - and that's where much of the work of those who supported the Legislature is done. It's Straus' opponent, former Republican Speaker Tom are Craddick, won't have

where bills get their start crafted. Committee chairmen can be powerful because they

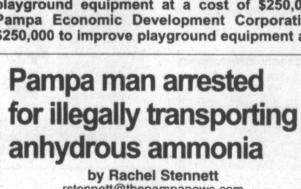
**Texas Legislature** have the discretion to let bills linger and die, too. Straus became speaker of the narrowly divided House last month. His sur-

> prise candidacy was boosted by a coalition of Democrats and Republicans who opposed Craddick. Republicans who broke with their party to form an early coalition of Straus supporters all landed on the leadership team, including Rep. Jim Pitts, named chairman of the

powerful House Appropriations commit-Pitts, R-Waxahachie,

who ran for speaker himself but withdrew to support Straus, served as chairman of the budgetwriting committee under Craddick in 2005. Former

See SESSION, Page 3



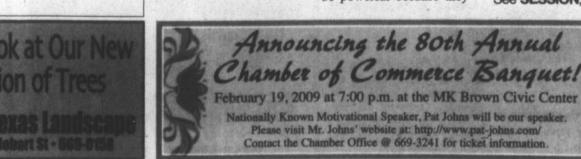
rstennett@thepampanews.com

annhydrous ammonia.

Thursday afternoon, Herr remained in jail.

tanks are not approved.





#### PAMPA FORECAST

Saturday

Sunday

Monday



Low 27





High 48 Low 28

High 57 Low 33

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 47. Wind chill values between 15 and 25 early. East northeast wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south southeast. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

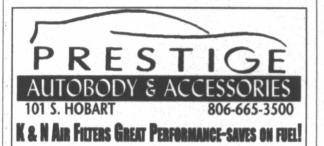
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 27. Wind chill values between 20 and 25. North northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 48. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 28. East northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south southeast.

Presidents' Day: Mostly sunny, with a high near 57. South wind between 10 and 20 mph. with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 33. South southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 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	.\$4.74
Milo	\$4.66
Corn	\$6.535

#### **Texas Two Step results**

AUSTIN (AP) - Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night; Winning numbers drawn: 6-15-7-18. Bonus Ball:

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Number matching four of four: 11. Prize: \$1,394. Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 37. Prize: \$51. Number matching three of four: 1,286. Prize: \$20.

Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 824. Prize: \$20.

Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 5,435. Prize: \$7.

Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 9,129. Prize:

Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$600,000.

#### Cash Five Texas results

AUSTIN (AP) - Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 29-25-20-22-3. Number matching five of five: 0. Matching four of five: 81. Prize: \$463 Matching three of five: 2,432. Prize: \$11 Matching two of five: 26,731. Prize: \$2 Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

#### The Pampa News 669-2525

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GOSPEL SINGING, Sunday afternoon, 2-4, Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock. Everyone welcome.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S Day Anthony. Love Always, Crystal & Kids.

**HEARTS** DESIRE Sale! 20% Off storewide-most items. Northeast corner Main & Hwy. 60, White Deer, Sat. 11am.-5pm.

MCLEAN DANCE, Feb 14th, 7:30pm.-11pm.

SELECT BRANDS of paint 1/2 price. While supplies last! Frank's Hardware and Rental, 401 N.Ballard. 665-4995.

WE ARE having our annual Heart Shaped Donuts for Friday Valentines Saturday. Order for delivery or come by and get some. Sisters Spudnuts, 800 W. Foster, 806-665-2209.

# For the Record

## **Obituaries**

#### Freda H. Martin, 74

Pampa, Texas— Freda H. Martin, 74, February 11, 2009, in Pampa, Texas. Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, February 14, 2009, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, Pastor Nachtigall of Highland Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under direction Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Martin was born May 10, 1934 in El Dorado, Kansas. She married Cliff Martin on December 30, 1950 in El Dorado, Kansas. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1955. She was a homemaker and a loving mother and animal lover. Survivors include her

husband, Cliff Martin of the home, six daughters; Alice Hall and husband Jim of Goodwell, Oklahoma, Joanne Willoughby and husband Gary, Mary Atchley, Shirley Ledford, and Judy Cox and husband Kenneth, all of Pampa, and Joyce Penny and husband Dan of Alamogordo,



Mexico, one sister; Daisy Anderson of El Dorado, Kansas; 17 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchil-

Freda was preceded in death by a daughter: Margaret Martin on March 13, 1996; and 5 sisters: May Fuller, Opal Lawson, Grace Henline, Gladys Marley and Orpha Anderson.

MEMORIALS: American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 50433, Amarillo, Texas



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Sign the on-line register at www.carmichaelwhatley.com

#### William Harvey Martin, Jr., 75

Texas Pampa, William Harvey Martin, Jr., 75, died February 12, 2009, in Pampa, Texas.

Entombment services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 14, 2009, at Gardens Mausoleum, with Stan Lehnert, pastor of Bethel Church of God, officiating. Arrangements are under direction Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mr. Martin was born

1933 14, Hallettsville, Texas, to William H. and Lois Jennings Martin. He married Gail Zafereo on December 1, 1954 in Victoria. He owned and operated Martin Painting in Liberal, Kansas for several years. He moved to

Pampa in 1996 where he owned the Cigarette Store for 11 years. He was a former member of Bethel Church of God for 21 years. William liked horses and stock car racing, and his favorite drivers and friends were Dwight Leatherman and Rick Taylor. He will be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

The family would like to thank the staff of Pampa Nursing Center for the love and care given to Mr. Martin.

Survivors in clude his wife, Gail Martin of the home, two sons; Jeffrey Martin and wife Mandi of Amarillo, and Michael Eversoll and wife Patti of Sherman, two daughters;

Connie Chapin and husband Frank of Willoughby, Ohio and Kim Hickman and husband Grant of Amarillo, nine grandchildren; Michael Steadman and wife Karen and Joshua Steadman and wife Amber, all of Pampa, Matthew Carr and wife Adrienne of Kansas City, Missouri, Cameron Martin, Alexander William Martin, Courtney Hickman, Jessica Hickman, and Kimberly Martin, all of Amarillo, and Michelle Blackmon of Denison, two great-grandsons; Michael Tanner Steadman and Kaleb Aaron Steadman, one great-granddaughter; Blackmon. Sydney William was preceded in death by a brother, Charles Benjanmon Martin and a



Martin

sister, Ruthie Armstrong.

MEMORIALS: Pampa Nursing Center, 1321 W. Kentucky, Pampa, Texas

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-what-

#### Martha E. Woodruff, 96

Panhandle, Texas Martha E. Woodruff, 96, died February 11, 2009, in Panhandle, Texas.

Graveside services be at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 14, 2009, at Gardens Memory Cemetery, with Rev. Joe Zimmerman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Panhandle, officiating. Arrangements are under direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of

Mrs. Woodruff was born January 7, 1913 in Wilson County, Kansas. She married Henry Woodruff on February 1, 1958 in Pampa. He preceded her in death in 1990. She had

been a resident of Pampa from 1937 until 1996 when she moved to Geronimo, Oklahoma. She moved to Panhandle in December of 2002 when she became a resident of St. Ann's Nursing Home. Martha loved to walk, dance at the nursing home, and play with babies and dogs. Survivors include two

daughters; Barbara Anderson and husband of Geronimo, Oklahoma, and Wanda Ellis and husband Jim of Panhandle, one son; John McKee of Amarillo, one sister; Violet Robertson of Arkansas, seven grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and four great-greatgrandchildren. She was

Calvary Assembly of God

The Church Built on Love.

**Service Times** 

Sunday School 9:45am

Worship Service 11:00am

Children's Church 11:00am

**Evening Service 6:00pm** 

Wed. Service 7:00pm

Pastor Karel & Vanissa Cantrell

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preceded in death by her parents, 6 brothers, 2 sisters and a grandson.

The family would like to thank the nurses CNA's for all their loving care of Martha these past seven years at St. Ann's Nursing Home.

MEMORIALS: Ann's Nursing Home, P.O. Box 1179, Panhandle,

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichaelwhatley.com

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# Fiery plane crash in NY kills 50

CLARENCE, N.Y. (AP) - A Continental commuter plane coming in for a landing nose-dived into a house in suburban Buffalo, sparking a fiery explosion that killed all 49 people aboard and a person in the home. It was the nation's first fatal crash of a commercial airliner in 2 1/2 years.

Witnesses heard the twin turboprop aircraft sputtering before it went down in light snow and fog around 10:20 p.m. Thursday about five miles from Buffalo Niagara International Airport. Continental Connection Flight 3407 from Newark, N.J., came in squarely through the roof of the house, its tail section visible through flames shooting at least 50 feet high.

"The whole sky was lit up orange," said Bob Dworak, who lives less than a mile away. "All the sudden, there was a big bang, and the house shook."

Two others in the house escaped with minor injuries. The plane was carrying a four-member crew and an off-duty pilot. Among the 44 passengers killed was a woman whose husband died in the World Trade Center attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

By morning, with the rubble still smoking, the had not yet begun. Erie County Emergency Coordinator David Bissonette said it appeared

the plane "dove directly on top of the house."

"It was a direct hit," Bissonette said. "It's remarkable that it only took one house. As devastating as that is, it could have wiped out the entire neighborhood."

President Barack Obama voiced condolences, saying "our hearts go out to the families and friends who lost loved ones."

No mayday call came from the pilot before the crash, according to a recording of air traffic control's radio messages captured by the Web site LiveATC.net. Neither the controller nor the pilot showed concern that anything was out of the ordinary as the airplane was asked to fly at 2,300 feet.

At the time of the last radio contact, the controller said the plane was three miles from a radio beacon that stands about four miles northeast of the airport. The controller told the crew to turn the plane left to intercept a radio signal that would guide it to Runway 23. A female pilot aboard the plane calmly repeated the instructions back correctly.

A minute later, the controller tried to contact the

response. After a pause, he tried to contact the plane again.

After the crash, at least two pilots were heard on air traffic control messages saying they had been picking up ice on their wings.

One person in the home was killed, and two others inside, Karen Wielinski, 57, and her 22-year-old daughter, Jill, were able to escape with minor injuries. Twelve homes were evacu-

The plane was carrying 5,000 pounds of fuel and

apparently exploded on impact, Erie County Executive Chris Collins

Firefighters got as close to the plane as they could, he said. "They were shouting out to see if there were any survivors on the plane. Truly a very heroic effort, but there were no survivors."

It was the first fatal crash of a commercial airliner in the United States since Aug. 27, 2006, when 49 people were killed.

## Mechanic for mayor

Mayor — cont. from page 1

department, police department, and city hall, he said. "I'm not going from job to job. There are kids who devote four years fighting in Iraq, the least I can do is devote two years to the city of Pampa. 100 percent dedication is what it's all about. I'm a regular guy who just wants to help" Danner explained.

He plans to use this down-to-earth approach to ultimately be elected.

"Let's get rid of Joe the Plumber and put in Monty the Mechanic," he joked.

Danner plans to have a self-supported campaign and not rely on donations from others. He also said he does not plan to put signs advertising himself in the city, but instead will "leave it to word going around town, and to God," to spread the word of his candidacy and get him

"I'm extremely happy and I feel really good about

Danner has lived in Pampa his entire life and graduated from Pampa High School in 1984.

He has three children, one deceased, and is married to Tammy Danner. As of press time, Danner is the only person to declare his candidacy for the position of mayor.

# PEDC public hearings

PEDC - cont. from page 1

looking into applying for Texas Parks and Wildlife "The key is the timeline," Stokes said.

He said he hopes to have a site selected this month, get additional funding and move quickly enough that the park could be open by May, 2010.

"If we don't do that," Stokes said, "we would be held. off until the summer of 2011. With the Certificates of Obligation, the payments start next summer.'

He said he hopes to have the aquatic park built soon in order to offset the cost of the payments.

Stokes said that the park should draw people into Pampa from around the area. The only other nearby municipal park is in Sunray. Amarillo has a privately owned water park, and Dumas is building one.

The PEDC is authorized to spend money for tourism,

Stokes said that the business people he's talked with favor the park.

The assistant city manager also asked for help with the city's park improvements, specifically playground equipment. The city has committed \$250,000 for new equipment, benches, shade and walkways at four parks. Stokes said that for an additional \$250,000, six other parks could also enjoy new improvements.

**Grant Committee** Kathy Cota, PEDC administrative assistant, said she had receiv ed a number of comments after writing an opinion piece in The Pampa News asking for the community's help researching grants.

"We got some really good response from it," she said. She said she had several people that came up to her and thanked her for the article and said they had some ideas. but they didn't have time to participate.

"Some of the ideas that people have been talking about as far as any grants for this area," Cota said, "were a child care grant for child care facilities here in town and

the Freedom Museum." The grant committee members include Natalie Reeve, Jack Swindell, Cay Warner, Jerri Erickson, Matt Rains, ReDonn Woods, Ray Jaimillo and Shane Stokes or,

Charlene Gardner from the city. Clay Rice, the new executive director of the Pampa Economic Development Corporation, said members of the board will attend a Basic Economic Development Course held by the state in Austin next week. One of the areas that will be presented there deals with strategic

planning, he said. Rice also said that A.J. Swope, a Pampa native and formerly with Channel 7, an Amarillo television station, has changed jobs and rice had invited him to come to the

PEDC and speak to the board. "He is no longer with Channel 7," Rice said. "He is

now with an organization called Class 4 Winds. He's executive director. This organization is promoting wind energy in our area." Rice said that Panhandle Day at the State Capitol

would be Feb. 23 and 24. Groups from the panhandle will descend on Austin those days to meet with lawmak-

There is a wind consortium meeting Feb. 26, in

Rice said that T. Boone Pickens would be named citizen of the year in New Braunfels at the Texas Legislative Conference, March 19 and 20.

#### task of retrieving remains plane but heard no egislative highlights.

Session - cont. from page 1

appropriations chairman Warren Chisum, who supported Craddick's candidacy, was not even named as a member on the commit-

xas

ster

New committee leader posts are split between 18 Republicans and 16 Democrats, reflecting the chamber's 76-74 GOP majority.

MATH AND SCIENCE Sen. Dan Patrick, R-Houston, filed legislation Thursday aimed at reversing the growing shortage of math and science teach-

Senate Bill 816 would create a scholarship program for college students pursuing degrees in math or science and provide each recipient with an annual scholarship of up to \$5,000 for four years. Upon graduation, the would be recipient required to teach math or science for four years in underserved areas of the

Sen. Florence Shapiro, a Plano Republican, is a coauthor of the bill.

**AUTISM FUNDING** 

The Senate's head budget writer, Republican Sen. Steve Ogden of Bryan, said Thursday that an autism program for children will not be halted as state officials had proposed.

"We're not going to cut that program," Ogden was quoted as saying in the Austin American-Statesman. He made the comment during a Senate Finance Committee meet-

On Wednesday, Terry Murphy, commissioner of Department of Assistive and

Rehabilitative Services, said he was forced to propose cutting the program because he had to choose something to comply with recent instructions by House Speaker Joe Straus and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst that agencies offer spending reductions of about 2.5 percent in their budgets for 2009.

He said he didn't think it was a good thing to cut. It is now a pilot program designed to serve around 300 children in the Houston and Dallas areas. Halting the program in March would have saved nearly \$2 million.

MARCH OF DIMES

March of Dimes volunteers and staff members visited the Capitol on Thursday to ask legislators to support \$2.9 million in funding to include cystic fibrosis in the state's newborn screening panel. The group also is seeking state funding for the Texas Birth Defects Registry and 12month continuous eligibility for children on Medicaid.

Texas has the thirdlargest population of

patients with cystic fibrosis, a common, genetic, life-threatening disease, according to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

"It is unfortunate that Texas will be one of the last states to screen newborns for cystic fibrosis," said Rep. Myra Crownover, a Denton Republican leading the charge for CF screening funding. She said newborn screening should be a standard medical practice.

BE KIND TO TRUCKERS

Texas Motor **Transportation Association** and Southwest Movers Association made their presence known at the Capitol on Thursday. They talked to legislators about their priority issues and gave road safety demonstrations and tours of tractor-trailers.

The trucking day "gives

motorists and legislators an opportunity to learn how to share the road with our captains of commerce," said TMTA President and CEO John D. Esparza.

Texas trucks transport 3.2 million tons per day, he said.

TIME FOR A BREAK

The House and Senate are taking off for the long President's Day weekend. Both chambers have adjourned until Tuesday.

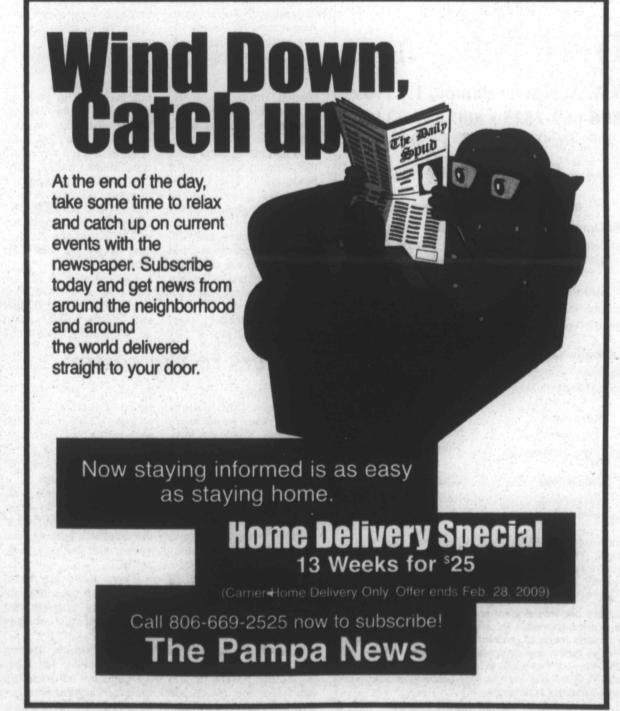
QUOTE OF THE DAY "This has been one of the hardest things I've ever had to do." — Republican House Speaker Joe Straus to House members shortly before giving them their new committee assign-

## Former president to hit speaking circuit

DALLAS (AP) - Former President George W. Bush is about to leave his Texas ranch and hit the lecture circuit. A co-owner of a Canadian company that organizes high-profile speaking events confirmed Thursday that Bush is scheduled to speak March 17 in Calgary, Alberta. The invitation says Bush will discuss "his eight momentous years in the Oval Office" and "the challenges facing the world in the 21st century."

The event is Bush's first confirmed speaking engage-





# Viewpoints

# Today in History

Today is Friday, Feb. 13, the 44th day of 2009. There are 321 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1542 - England's Queen Catherine Howard is executed for treason on the orders of her husband Henry

1633 - Italian astronomer Galileo arrives in Rome and is detained by Roman Catholic Inquisition.

1635 - Boston Latin School, the United States' oldest secondary school is founded.

1689 - English Parliament adopts a Bill of Rights. 1795 - The first U.S. state university opens in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

1820 - Duc de Berry, heir to French throne, is assassinated by an anti-royalist.

1856 - Britain annexes Oudh, in India, increasing

further hostility to British rule.

'An explanation of cause is not a justification by reason.'

> - C.S. Lewis, English author

1914 - The American Society of Composers, Authors Publishers, known as ASCAP, is founded in New York City.

1920 - The League of Nations recognizes Switzerland's neutrality.

1945 Allied forces capture Budapest, Hungary, in World War II. U.S. warplanes firebomb Dresden, Germany, wiping out the city and killing more than

35,000 civilians.

1960 - France explodes its first atomic bomb.

1961 - U.N. Security Council urges use of force to prevent civil war in the Congo.

1968 - Ten thousand U.S. troops are in process of being transported to South Vietnam on speedup basis as fighting increases in that country.

1976 - Nigerian junta leader General Murtala Ramat Muhammad is assassinated in a coup attempt. 1989 - Soviet Red Army leaves Afghan capital of

1996 - Israeli troops seal off the West Bank and Gaza to prevent terrorist attacks. The restrictions last for years.

1999 - Osama bin Laden, the Saudi millionaire suspected of being behind the bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, is reported to have disappeared from his base in Afghanistan.

2003 - Three U.S. Defense Department contractors are believed abducted in Colombia and one U.S. contractor and one Colombian army intelligence officer were killed after a U.S. government-operated airplane crashed in the southern Caqueta province.

2005 - Troops in helicopters bring badly needed relief supplies to villages obliterated by floods in southwestern Pakistan, as the nationwide death toll from the disaster climbs past 350.

Today's Birthdays:

Charles Maurice Talleyrand-Perigord, French statesman (1754-1838); Eileen Farrell, U.S. soprano (1920-2002); Kim Novak, U.S. actress (1933--); Stockard Channing, U.S. actress (1944--); Jerry Springer, U.S. talk show host (1944--); Peter Gabriel, British singer (1950--); Robbie Williams, British singer (1974--).



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#### Randall Pribble

Publisher

**Betsy Phillips** 

Editor

**David Bowser** 

Reporter

dbowser@thepampanews.com

**Rachel Stennett** 

Reporter

rstennett@thepampanews.com

**Marcus Elkins** 

Press Supervisor

Chico Ramirez

Circulation Supervisor

rpribble@thepampanews.com

**ReDonn Woods** Advertising Manager

advertising@thepampanews.com bphillips@thepampanews.com

advertising1@thepampanews.com **Beverly Taylor** 

Sue Pribble

Advertising Representative

Classified Advertising classified@thepampanews.com

**Kera Kent** Circulation

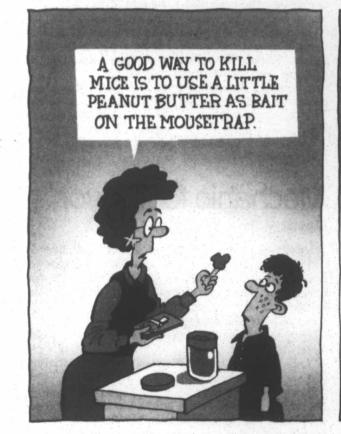
circulation@thepampanews.com Carrie Hair

Accounting bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

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# Texas voters want broken school funding system fixed

by TSTA President Rita C. Haecker

"Despite a tight state budget, an overwhelming bipartisan majority of Texas voters believe that providing more state resources for public education is a solid investment that is necessary to secure our economic future.

"Simply put, Texans Republicans, Democrats and Independents alike - know that in today's global economy, education is a wise investment that will not crash in tough times.

"This key finding of a statewide poll commissioned by the Texas State Teachers Association indicates strong public support for recent reports that the Legislature may act this year to fix our broken school finance system. This broken system has forced local school leaders to dip deeply into reserve funds and in some cases cut programs and person-

"The results of this poll simply reinforce what Texas voters said in the 2006 and 2008 elections.

Republicans, Democrats and Independents agree that the time has come to fix a broken school funding

"Texans believe public education is state government's top priority. More than twice as many respondents believe public education is a more important priority than property tax cuts.

"When the Legislature passed a state tax increase just three years ago, all that money went to pay for property tax cuts. But per-pupil funding for our schools was frozen at 2006 levels, with no allowance for rising costs or increasing salaries.

"This year, Texans say it's time for our elected officials to step up and get it right. An overwhelming supermajority of 71 percent says the Legislature still has more work to do on school funding.

"This year, Texans say it's time to recognize the importance of teachers and treat them like professionals. When asked what factor makes for a good public school, 61 percent identify teachers, and 66 percent say teacher pay falls short of what it should be - a sentiment shared by Texans of all political persuasions.

"This year, Texans say it's time to end the state's obsession with highstakes standardized tests. They don't think a standardized test should decide whether a student passes a course. Sixty-four percent say the state puts too much emphasis on high-stakes testing. Sixty-three percent believe coursework should be as important as a state test in determining student success.

"At the same time, Texans know that changing the way the state measures academic results does nothing to fix a broken school funding system that shortchanges local schools, students and teachers.

"On all of these key issues, a majority of Republicans, Democrats and Independents agree that we can and must do better. We are encouraged that legislators are starting to hear that message. We hope they will develop a school funding solution worthy of our students, teachers and taxpayers."

#### Other editors say

Austin American-Statesman on Wall Street:

The overweening sense of entitlement and shocking lack of common sense among Wall Street executives is simply incomprehensible to most Americans. It seems no amount of shame and outrage can change their behavior.

Giant insurer AIG was blasted around the world last year for spending half a million dollars on a retreat for its executives who had managed to drive the company to the edge of bankruptcy. The government had bailed out the struggling company with a total of \$150 billion that's with a B in loans, and AIG was still jetting its top folks around the world for spa treatments and hunting trips on the taxpayers' dol-

week AIG acknowledged that it was

going ahead with \$450 million in bonuses for 400 employees who had sold the credit default swaps that put the company in the red. That's more than \$1 million for each of those valuable employees who managed to lose \$11 bil-

lion last quarter. AIG, the country's largest insurer, said it needs to give the "retention bonuses" to keep the employees from leaving. Where does the company think they'll go? The landscape is littered with dead investment banks, and those still surviving are bleeding red ink. AIG is estimated to have spent \$1 billion to retain employees in a year that saw 2.6 million Americans lose their

One would think the government's Troubled Assets Relief Program that oversees the bailouts could do something about this

and other outrages. But so far, greed has stomped all over oversight and com-

mon sense. Just before the failing brokerage was to be rescued by the Bank of America, Thain gave out \$4 billion in bonuses to the executives. The company then reported losses totaling \$37 billion in 15 months. Those bonuses are being investigated by the New York attorney general's office.

Citigroup was about to take possession of a \$50 million corporate jet it ordered several years ago until President Barack Obama and other outraged politicians stepped in. Citigroup got a \$45 billion bailout from the government, and spending that money on another expensive corporate jet the company already owns five was too much for Washington to swallow.

After Bank of America announced it would absorb Merrill Lynch, the bank received a \$25 billion bailout from the government. It got another \$20 billion this month. During that time, Merrill Lynch executive Peter Krause left with a \$25 million golden parachute and bought a \$37 million luxury apartment in New York City.

There is palpable and justified outrage around the country about the greed and arrogance permeating Wall Street. No one can justify the obvious disconnect between the culture of entitlement and actual performance.

Americans are right to worry about the president's push for another \$825 billion stimulus when the country's business leaders are still so out of touch with reality that they reward abject failure with million dollar bonuses.

#### Letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

I really like garage sales. Try to go to every one I can. Some are nice, some are horrible. Some are so neat, clean, and organized, while some appear they have removed all the items from a chicken coop.

Most people are eager to just be rid of their surplus and price them rightly. Others are so proud of their iteas, the prices are so high, they should have kept them in the first place.

I love to have my own garage sale occasionally. I price my items, but most people don't know, if you don't like the price, just make an offer, and I usual-

ly accept it. My sale is to be rid of the surplus. I do it to make a little money, but not trying to get rich. Garage sales are a lot of work. I make sure mine are clean and organized.

I have some complaints about those who advertise a sale, and then arrive at the address, nothing, not even a sign that says "cancelled."

Then, there are those who set the time, and are never ready, or those who quit before the time they

While you're driving around looking for signs for those not advertised in the paper, most of the signs have been on the posts for

It would be so nice if a law was passed to forbid garage sale signs on light poles and telephone poles. It would help in the process of cleaning up the

There are ways to display your sign without nailing it to a post and never removing it.

Put your sign on a box, write the address, date and time, and remove the box when the sale ends. Place a brick in the box.

I have met so many nice people who give garage sales, then there are those who are so rude, I just walk away.

Recently I bought

a real nice piece of furniture at the price asked. It was worth much more, but the lady did not need it anymore, and she even delivered it to my address and would not let me pay for delivery. At the end of her garage sale, she even drove back to my residence and gave me the most beautiful, lace panel curtains. Yes, there are nice people who have garage sales.

I am planning a big sale in the spring. Be sure and come, and remember, if you don't like the price, just make me a reasonable offer. I just might accept.

June Williams

Pampa

# PraiseWorship

# Confessions of an over-reactor





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**CURT B. BECK, P.E. CONSULTING ENGINEER - POLLUTION AND ENERGY** 

Actually, I prefer to think of myself as a recovering over-reactor. But I admit that I do fall off the wagon from time to time. What happened a couple of days ago was a case in point.

I woke up in a state of exasperation. My week had been a busy one, filled to the brim with appointments, meetings and unfinished tasks. Never mind that I created and even desired most of the activities on my agenda. I couldn't get past the irrational feelings of irritation and aggravation that I didn't have enough time to do all that I thought I had to do.

So the fact that I was running late to my hair appointment and leaving my dirty house and piled laundry behind was more than I could handle. The car in front of me which I was certain was going at least 20 miles below the speed limit didn't help matters either.

I ranted and raved most of the way to the beauty shop. Fortunately, I wasn't alone with my inconsequential and insignificant ranting. My daughter was with me and, thankfully, soon became my needed voice of reason. She calmly pointed out that everything I was stressing over was easily fixable

and could be corrected -- maybe not all that very day, mind you, but all doable She emphasized that my getting all worked up was blowing everything out of

proportion and was not going to help me accomplish what I needed and wanted. She was right, of course. I knew this. But the "Drama Queen" in me needed to I learned long ago that making a mountain out of a molehill only resulted in

one thing -- a big deal being made out of a minor issue. And whenever I made "mountains," I made things more difficult than they had to be. A couple of years ago, I recall a newspaper column titled, "Don't sweat the

small stuff when so much else matters." It turns out that most of what makes me sweat is all very small when proper perspective takes over my sanity.

Most days I ask myself - "Will I remember a year from now what is driving me crazy today?"

Do you think I can tell you which days last year I was late for my hair appointment? Or which days my house was dirty or which days I got behind on my laundry? Of course I can't! And why can't I? Because these kinds of things are small stuff in comparison with the grander things that makes up my life and my treasured memories.

I do try very hard not to waste time and energy getting upset over things that weigh not one iota among the things that do matter most to me. And I can promise you that the only thing that over-reacting achieves is wasted time and needless misery.

I find comfort in remembering the words of the Master, "Let not your heart be troubled" (John 14:27) and the Psalmist, "Fret not thyself." (Psalms 37:37) These words of wisdom usually help redirect my focus and bring calm to my irrational emotions.

I remember when Jesus calmed the storm at sea saying, "Peace, be still." (Mark 4:39) And his healing message also calms what seems like a storm brewing in my weary mind. I find my center again -- no longer caught up in the minutiae of a frantic moment.

I hope my confession is helpful to you, my friends. Life can have enough drama in it at times without us adding more to it. Besides -- sweating too much over the small stuff will keep you from experiencing and enjoying what is really important to you. And if you're like me, you don't want that!

-Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives on a north Texas ranch with her husband, John. Her columns are published weekly on United Press International's ReligionAndSpirituality.com and numerous other websites and newspapers. Visit her website and participate in her blog at www.annettebridges.com < http://www.annettebridges.com/> and send her an email at annettebridges@gmail.com.

# 4Given appearing at **Central Baptist**

4Given will appear at Central Baptist Church, 513 E. Francis, Pampa, Texas on Saturday, February 14th. The concert will be in the church's sanctuary and will begin at approximately 7:15 p.m.

4Given is a southern gospel quartet that has been together for 10 years spreading the gospel in song to thousands in the five state area of Texas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Kansas, and New Mexico. They have appeared on the 2008 Gaither Homecoming Tour, on TBN, and with The Martins. Greg Wright, Mike Cummings, Brad Thiessen, and Randy Hunsaker hope to share their deep love for gospel music with others for many years to come. (Website: www.4givenquartet.com

## "Fireproof" at **Central Baptist Church**

The young adults of Central Baptist will begin "The Love Dare Bible Study" taken from the movie "Fireproof" beginning Sunday, February 15 at 9:45 a.m. The study will last for 8 sessions and utilizes activities that create community, provides opportunity to dialog about real life in real marriage, explores and applies God's Word, and invites participants into a risky but redemptive journey. Central Baptist Church is located at the corner of Starkweather and Browning. For more information you can call 665-1631.

#### **Trinity Fellowship Church to** host national marriage simulcast conference

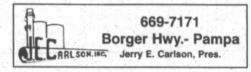
Focus on the Family's first ever national marriage simulcast event will be hosted by Trinity Fellowship on February 28 beginning at 8:30 am.

Speakers will discuss marriage as it relates to Christ and the Church, the Trinity, and everyday changes that can be made to strengthen the relationship between a husband and wife.

Trinity Fellowship Church is located at 2225 N. Hobart. For more informaor to register, visit Focus on the Family www.focusonmarriage.com.

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# Boy Scouts eye permanent Jamboree home in Va.

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)

— The Boy Scouts of America is hoping it has found a permanent home in southwestern Virginia for its national Jamboree.

The Irving, Texas-based organization will mark its 100th anniversary with the 2010 Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill north of Richmond — the site used since 1981 — and then plans to move to Goshen in Rockbridge County in 2013 for the gathering.

The event that brings thousands of Boy Scouts from around the country is held every four years, but the next one is being pushed back a year to 2010 to coincide with the centennial.

While the ultimate goal is for Goshen to serve as the permanent site of the event, much needs to be done to make that happen including land aquisition and development, said Nicole Slater, a spokeswoman for the Scouts.

"They're not looking at other places right now; we're still embarking on the process, not at the end of it," Slater said.

The decision came after an 18-month review of possible locations to create a national scouting center, officials said in a news release late Wednesday. The center would focus on creating a permanent home for the Jamboree, establishing a new high-adventure base and creating new training opportunities.

"In its entirety, the center will offer a new American

landmark — a multipurpose, year-round destination for Scouting activities that will become the epicenter for the best that Scouting has to offer," said Jack D. Furst, who oversaw the selection process.

Goshen already serves as home to the Goshen Scout Reservation, located on more than 4,000 acres in the Blue Ridge Mountains of southwestern Virginia. The site, about a three-and-a-half hour drive from Washington, D.C., has six separate camps on the shores of its own 450-acre Lake Merriweather.

Rockbridge County Administrator Claire Collins said the decision will help bring visitors to the region and create jobs at the site as well as hospitality businesses in the area.

"It is something that will feed the economic engine in what is right now a very economic downturn in our area and help give some sense of hope to people," Collins said.

The organization also announced plans to locate the high-adventure camp part of the national scouting center in either Fayette or Raleigh counties in West Virginia. It also operates high-adventure bases world. The transcription wore transcription world. The transcription world. The transcription

in Florida, Minnesota and New Mexico.

The Boy Scouts have held the gathering since 1937. Fort A.P. Hill in Caroline County has hosted the event since 1981, but some have questioned whether the Department of Defense could continue to financially support the event because the Scouts require members to swear an oath of duty to God.

In exchange for getting use of the Army training base, officials have said the Scouts have made base improvements that include road paving and plumbing upgrades. And the Army uses the Jamboree as an opportunity to train personnel in crowd control, communications and other logistical skills.

The 10-day event made headlines in 2005 when four adult Scout leaders were killed in an electrical accident on the opening day of the event attended by more than 40,000 Boy Scouts, leaders and volunteers from around the world. The tragedy was followed by days of intense heat that sickened more than 300 Scouts and visitors. And a scheduled visit by then-President Bush was postponed twice

# Garment recall after boy strangled by drawstring

PARAMOUNT, Calif. (AP) — A clothing manufacturer has agreed to a voluntary recall of

Ty Payne

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300,000 hooded sweat shirts after a 3-year-old boy was strangled by a drawstring, a federal agency announced Thursday.

Hill Sportswear Inc., based in Paramount, will recall its "kid pullover hood sweat shirt" and "kid zipper sweat shirt with hood," the U.S. Consumer Product Safety

Commission said.

Both garments have drawstrings through the hood.

The sweat shirts were sold primarily in California, with a small amount also sold in Texas, from August 1999 through December 2008 for about \$8, safety commission spokesman Scott Wolfson said.

It is the 18th and by far the largest recall of children's outerwear due to drawstrings since December 2007, he said.

"It is critically important that manufacturers stop making children's outer-wear with drawstrings and that parents respond immediately to this recall by removing the drawstring and calling the company for the remedy they are entitled to," Wolfson said.

## House of Cheer

Gymnastics of Pampa's House of Cheer Compeptitive Cheerleading Squad has been busy preparing for their second appearance in the Jamfest Nationals competition to be held Feb. 7 and 8 in Oklahoma City, Okla. They will be the only team appearing from Texas this year. They will be competing against squads from Oklahoma, Kansas, and Arkansas.

The girls began the 2008-2009 season with their first competition in Lubbock in November. The senior squad brought home the first place trophy and plaque and the junior squad brought home the second place trophy and plaque. Their next competition was in Amarillo in December. Again, the senior squad placed first and the junior squad placed second. The girls have been very consistent and look forward to a rewarding competition in Oklahoma City.



Senior squad: (bases left to right) Karli Haden, Amanda Bennett, Ellen Cambern, Lindsey Saxour, Karami Rice, Jessica Kinney, Rachel Andrews, and Chelsee Whinery. (Flyers left to right) Trista stickland, Kelley Malone and McKinlee Stokes. Not pictured: Karoley Villareal and Lindy Watson.

Texa

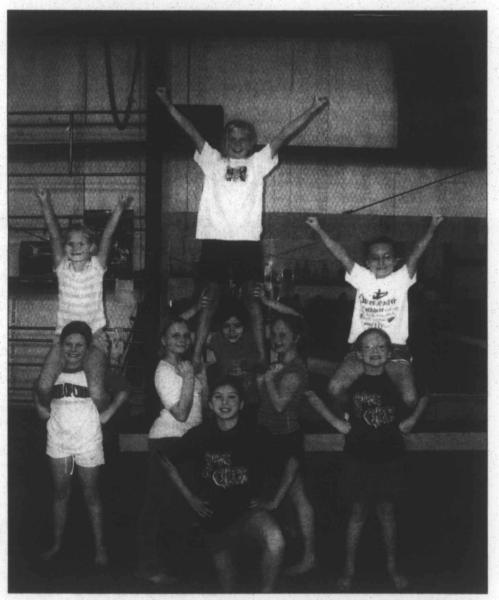
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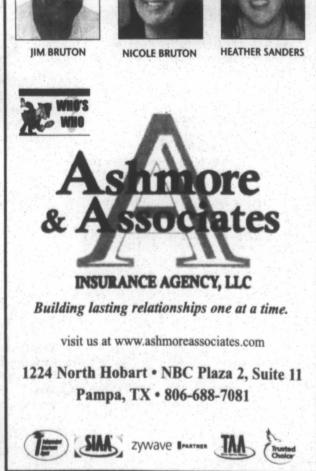


Junior squad (front) Holly Osbourne (bases left to right) Samantha Clancy, Savannah Davis, Lindzy Hill, Kayla Turner and Calista Bolin. (Flyers left to right) Cheyanne Day, Arial Camern and Maddie Yates.

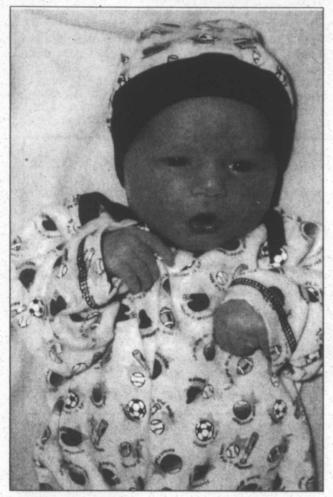




Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00 • Saturday 10:00-1:00



### WELCOME



# Aaron Phelps

Caeleb Aaron Phelps was born to Jonathan and Starla Phelps at 11:15 p.m., January 22, 2009 in BSA Hospital in Amarillo.

At birth, Caeleb weighed 7 pounds 5 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long.

He is welcomed by his sister and brother; Jacob Honeycutt and Hannah Phelps of Pampa, his grandparents; Mr and Mrs. Paul Phelps and Mr. and Mrs. Wendill Honeycutt, all of Pampa and his great grandparents Virginia Chandler and Billie Phelps, both of Pampa.

# Feds seeking endangered species update information

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) -The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said Thursday it is soliciting information to update the status of 23 endangered or threatened species in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

Spokesman Humphrey said Endangered Species Act requires a review of listed plant and animal species every five years to see whether the classifications are still accurate or whether additional action, including full-fledged status reviews, are needed.

A new batch of species is reviewed every year.

State wildlife agency or university scientists usually provide the information, but the general public frequently contributes too, said Humphrey, who is based in Phoenix.

Information must be submitted by May 12.

"Sometimes what we get from the public is their awareness of increased threat," he said. For example, if a county has slated a highway to go through a certain area, that might affect an animal's migrato-

ry route. Fish and Wildlife staffers who track various endangered or threatened species might not automatically know of potential threats from such projects, he added.

"Particularly in the area of threats, sometimes citizens have provided us good heads-up," Humphrey said.

In addition, he said there is an increasing emphasis on citizen science - such as bird counts and surveys conducted by private citizens keyed to shifts in the behavior, migration or habitat patterns of animals and plants.

Such efforts, he said, mallow, a wildflower.

"are becoming more and more relevant to us as we look at more long-term pictures of species," Humphrey said.

He cited work being done by the USA National Phenology Network involving federal agencies, academic institutions and citizen scientists. The University of Arizonabased project studies changes in plant and animal life cycle events influenced by climate change.

Humphrey said the review itself won't result in a change of status for any listed species but could trigger a full-blown review of the listing, for instance to evaluate the recovery plan being used.

Among the protected species under review this year are the Gila chub (a fish), masked bobwhite quail, Mexican long-nosed bat and the Texas poppy-

# South Texas mayor charged with terroristic threat

LA GRULLA, Texas (AP) — The mayor of a south Texas city is out of jail on bond after his arrest for allegedly threatening to kill a local commissioner.

Deputies in Starr County on Thursday arrested La Grulla Mayor Oscar Gonzalez, 41, on a charge of making a terroristic threat. He is accused of using a phone to threaten to kill city commissioner Joel Zarate, the McAllen Monitor reported in its online edition Thursday.

The two are likely opponents in the town's upcoming mayoral election in May.

Gonzalez was released from jail after posting a \$1,000 bond and has filed a lawsuit against Zarate accusing him of making a false accusation for political gain.

Jail records did not list an attorney for Gonzalez, a jail spokesman told The Associated Press.

Starr County attorney Victor Canales, who would not disclose information from the complaint until it is filed next week, said he and a justice of the peace had sufficient evidence to issue a warrant for the mayor's arrest.

"It's political — it's all political," Gonzalez said. He also said all the public officials in Starr County were "like a bunch of used nails - they're crooked."

La Grulla is a U.S.-Mexico border town about 220 miles south of San Antonio.

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## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am 16 but will be 17 in a few months. I have known my boyfriend, "Gabriel," for two years. He is my first boyfriend.

After four months of dating, Gabriel has asked me to marry him, and I said yes. He had been hinting about an engagement, and I didn't have the heart to say otherwise. Gabriel is very dear to me, but I keep hearing people say, "Keep your options open." I told Gabriel that I am young (he's 18), and I want to take it slowly, but he says if I break up with him to date other guys, he will never date

Abby, I want to make sure Gabriel is the person I want to spend the rest of my life with. Sometimes I wish I hadn't started dating him because I feel too young to be engaged or married. I love Gabriel dearly. I don't want to break his heart or mine. I am also scared I might mess up this relationship. What should I do to make myself believe that I have found my true love? -- STUCK IN **OKLAHOMA** 

DEAR STUCK: You should have been absolutely honest with Gabriel from the beginning. When you have found your own true love, you won't have to "make yourself" believe it. You will KNOW it.

Gabriel is pressuring you because he is afraid if you start dating others he won't measure up. For both your sakes, tell him that you are not ready to make the kind of commitment he is demanding. He may not like hearing it, but it is the truth. You won't break his heart, and once you have done it, you will feel a sense of relief.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married almost five years. Our wedding present from his sister

and her husband -- who owns a video production company -- was supposed to be our wedding video.

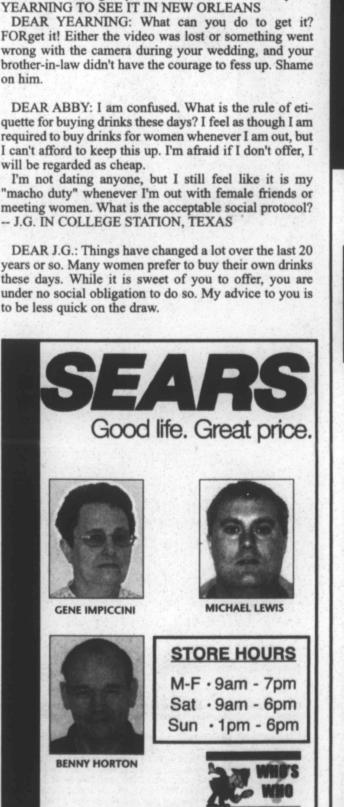
Abby, we still have not received it or seen it. We have asked for it many times, and his answer is always, "I'm working on it." It's really sad. I now have two children, and this has become a sore subject. What can I do to get it without causing any more drama in the family? --

DEAR YEARNING: What can you do to get it? FORget it! Either the video was lost or something went wrong with the camera during your wedding, and your brother-in-law didn't have the courage to fess up. Shame

DEAR ABBY: I am confused. What is the rule of etiquette for buying drinks these days? I feel as though I am required to buy drinks for women whenever I am out, but I can't afford to keep this up. I'm afraid if I don't offer, I will be regarded as cheap.

I'm not dating anyone, but I still feel like it is my "macho duty" whenever I'm out with female friends or meeting women. What is the acceptable social protocol?

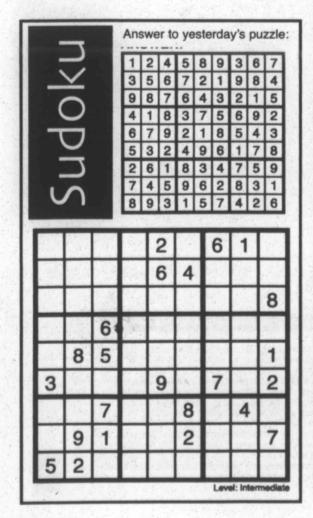
DEAR J.G.: Things have changed a lot over the last 20 years or so. Many women prefer to buy their own drinks these days. While it is sweet of you to offer, you are under no social obligation to do so. My advice to you is to be less quick on the draw.



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# ENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

•Valentine's Day, Feb 14, Cowboy Poetry Breakfast begins at 8 a.m. at the Big Texan Steak Ranch. Headliners Charlie Sinclair and Buck Werbein are both well-known from appearing at many area community events. Charlie was the first president of the Southwest Cowboy Poets Association, he's especially noted for heart-warming and hilarious poems. Buck has been a cowboy in this area for many years. Musicians Charlie Bell and Ivan Cates open the program. Members of SWCPA will follow the headliners with their cowboy/girl poetry, skits, tall tales, and maybe some Valentine poems.

· Lovett Memorial Library will present free classes: Microsoft Excel: Tuesday, February 3, 1:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. and Tuesday, February 10, 1:15 p.m. and 6:15

Microsoft Powerpoint: Tuesday, February 17, 1:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. and Tuesday, February 24, 1:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.

For more information call the library, 669-5780. • Top O' Texas Republican Women will meet from

noon until 1 p.m. Wednesday, February 18, in the Senior Citizens Center for a lunch and meeting. Please come and

· Gray County Genealogical society will hold their monthly meeting at 7 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month, except for Decemebr. Visitors are welcome.

 Members of Crowley, Texas, High School Class of 1989 are organizing a class reunion. For more information, e-mail chs89reunion@gmail.com or contact Nancy Dodgen Dyess (817) 994-0969 or Misty Shewmaker Hollis at (817) 991-8090.

· "Live On Stage" Community Concerts of Pampa's final performance planned for the current season will be "Pianafiddle," a combination of familiar tunes by pianist Lynn Wright and violinist/fiddler Adam DeGraff improvising to get toes tapping and hands clapping. Their performance is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. March 6 in M.K. Brown Auditorium.

· 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: 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.

•Confidential heart health screenings are being offered free of charge from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, February 20, at United Supermarket, 1420 N. Hobart, by Accolade Home Care as part of Heart Health month, a national initiative of the American Heart Association. Accolade screenings take roughly five to ten minutes and will include a five panel screening that will measure: blood pressure, O2 saturation, weight, cholesterol and BMI. Each screening

is administered by a qualified healthcare professional and the results from the screening will be made available to participant. Accolade will also provide individuals with informational sheets explaining their numbers from the

For information, call Accolade Homecare in Pampa at 806-665-9700.

· The South Plains Agriculture 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 conference is being conducted by Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas Wildlife Association, and Texas Parks and Wildlife. The purpose of the conference is to explore the pros and cons associated with the industry in Texas. For more information, call Ken Cearley, Extension wildlife specialist, at (806) 651-5760. · USS Maddox Destroyer Association Reunion is slated Sept. 9-13 in Phoenix, Ariz. To find out more, call

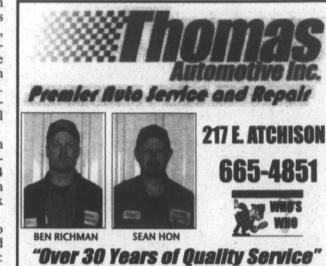
(337) 616-8450 or e-mail cwgilles45@aol.com. · Fawn Lake Press is offering free "Proud to be an American" flag decals to anyone sending a selfaddressed stamped envelope to Fawn Lake Press, 54 Fawn Lake Rd., Durango, CO 81301. Active servicemen and women need not send a SASE to receive the free 2 x 3-inch color decals. Fawn Lake will pay their postage.

· Manhattanville My Soldier is seeking volunteers to "adopt" a deployed United States Serviceperson. To find out more, visit www.mysoldier.com on-line or write to:

Manhattanville College My Soldier Department, 2900 Purchase St., Purchase, NY 10577.

· T.O.P.S. Club, a weight loss group, is seeking new members. The club meets from 5:30-6:30 p.m. each Monday at 513 E. Francis. New members welcome.

 T.O.P.S. Club, a weight loss group, meets at 11:30 a.m. at noon each Monday at St. Paul's Methodist Church, 511 N. Hobart.





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# Comics

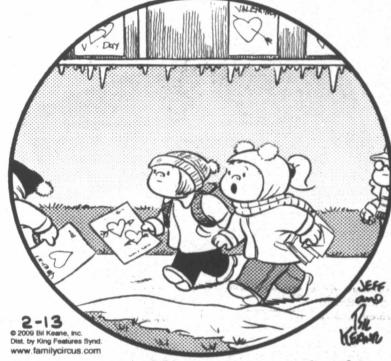
#### Marmaduke



"Maybe someday, somebody will invent a leash with a brake."

#### THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"I gave up making my own valentines, 'cause all my hearts were lopsided."

#### **Daily Crossword Puzzle**

#### CROSSWORD

42 Skating

sites

44 "Sexy"

girl

45 Poor

**DOWN** 

2 Lily

1 Pizzeria

Munster's

husband

3 Bonkers

4 Retina

part

many

photo

6 Stellar

services

5 Like

need

43 Suffered

**Beatles** 

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- **ACROSS** 1 "Kootchykootchy" star
- 6 Volumebased 11 Ibis'
- cousin **12** Met
- doings 13 Crumble
- 14 City VIP 15 Outback
- runner 16 Weed
- whacker **18** — roll 19 Japanese
- honorific 20 Be decisive
- 21 Take in
- 22 Finishes
- 24 Throws in 25 Outpouring
- **27** Lyricist Sammy
- 29 Old Testament book
- 32 Mine find 33 Queue
- after Q 34 Eden evictee
- 35 Research site
- 36 Jargon suffix 37 Wee dog,
- for short 38 Past
- plump 40 Blizzard bit

44

WIPER SILAS ERODE CREME BARED HITIT ENDOWS ADDERAMAP CROWED CORA HOVEREDOVER EVES REPENT DER JIM DAY DINERO BASIL RAVES EXACT IRENE DECKS TERSE

Yesterday's answer

- 8 Unseemly 27 Jockey's 9 Degarb
- creased? 28 Mideast 10 Diamond area 30 Brought units
- 17 Tyrannize to mind 23 Heir, at **31** Fix 33 Singer times 24 Busy Della
- 39 Try the worker 26 Singer Gloria
- sight slopes **7** — tree 41 Canard NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

#### 15 19 20 22 30 40 42 43

For Better Or Worse



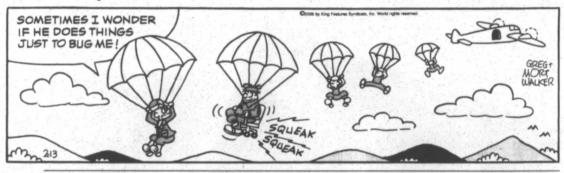
#### **Zits**



Garfield



#### **Beetle Bailey**



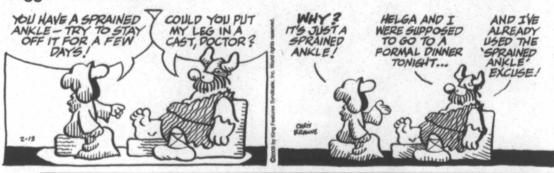
#### Marvin



#### B.C.



#### **Haggar The Horrible**



#### **Peanuts**

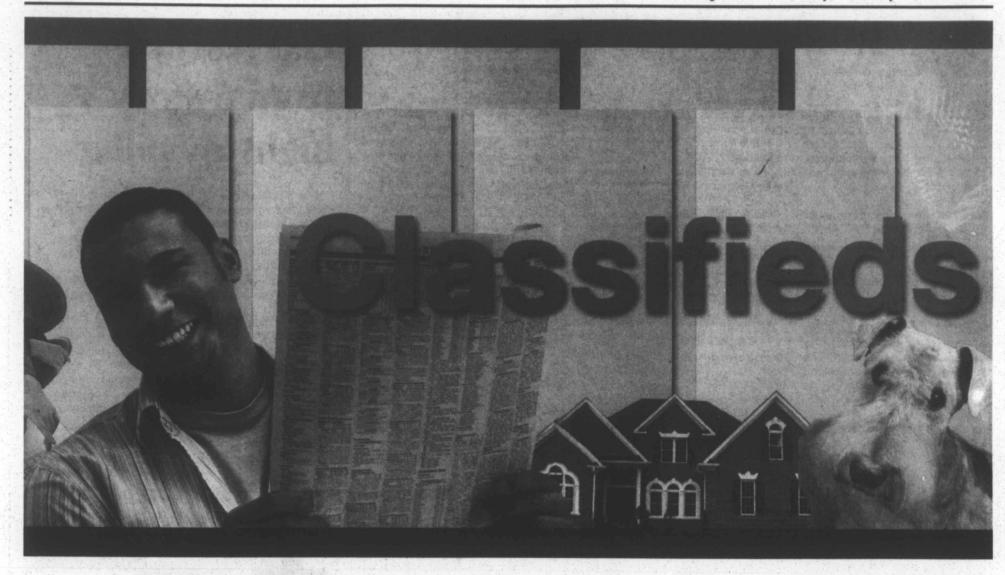


#### **Blondie**



Flo & Friends







1 Public Notice

COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSAL FOR PAMPA

HIGH SCHOOL ROOF REMOVAL AND

REPLACEMENT **PAMPA** INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

PAMPA, TEXAS furnishing all labor and Const. materials for the roof 665-0354. High School building struction. Call 669- FULL-TIME belonging to the Pampa 6347. Independent School District will be received no later than March 10, 2009 at 4:00 p.m., at the Pampa ISD Ad- CLEANING SERVICE dle, 537-3194.

Faxed bids will not be 14h Gen. Serv. accepted. Bids received after the deadline will not be accepted. Bids shall be submitted in a 299-9563, sealed envelope and

clearly marked on the outside of the mailing opening date and time.

Bids shall be addressed Betty Meadows **Purchasing Director** Pampa ISD

321 W. Albert Pampa, TX 79065 pre-bid conference will be held at Pampa High School, Conference Room, 111 E. harvester, Pampa, TX on February 20, 2009

at 10:00 a.m. Bids shall be accompa nied by an acceptable Bid Bond or Cashier's Check in a sum not less than 5% of the maximum bid, payable to the Owner, with the understanding that if the bid is accepted, the Bidder Drywall, Trim/Crown will, within 10 days enter into a contract and give acceptable Surety timates! Company Performance 2029, Jon, 662-9421 and Labor and material Bond, in the full amount of the contract KITCHENS,

for such work. Bids may not be withdrawn after the bid prices 664-0984. opening for at least 30 days, or until Notice of Award or rejection of 14r Plowing/Yard bid has been received. Pampa ISD reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive defects, and to waive any or all formalities, irregularities or technicalities.

Complete specifications and / or other documents may be requested contacting: Vickie Crenshaw, PE, Crenshaw Consulting Group, LP, 414 North Turner, Hobbs, New Mexico, (575)393-0073 C-26 Feb. 13, 15, 2009

3 Personal

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\*\*1-800-989-8921\*\* 5 Special Notices

ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST placed be through the Pampa News Office Only.

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13 Bus. Opp.

Investment opp. Pampa motel. Retired couple or individual, 665-1875, 806-383-

**14d Carpentry** 

Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jer-Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

CUSTOM Building & Remodeling. Replace-

of the Pampa REPAIR Kidwell Con- goods.

14e Carpet Serv.

ministration Building, Bob Marx Owner-OperTHE Department

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NEED **NEW & REPAIRED** BARBWIRE FENCE? ALSO STEEL PENS CALL: LUIS SALAS

or 806-662-8766 REMODELING Service, Painting, Texture, Molding, General Carpentry, Fences. Free Es-Josh,

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CLEAN Up, Landscaping, tree trimming, gardens. All types of jobs.

Free est. 486-1311.

14r Plowing/Yard

ROTOTILLING flower 662-6594 or 665-4835.

14s Plumbing/Heat JACK'S Plumbing, 715

W. Foster, 665-7115. 19 Situations

WILL DO HOUSECLEANING 669-4223

TORRI'S Cleaning Co. Very Reas. Rates. Free handmade candle per customer. 486-1514.

21 Help Wanted

windows. Ref. Readers are urged to Sealed proposal for avail. Shawn Deaver fully investigate adver-662-2977 or tisements which require payment in advance for removal and replace- OVERHEAD DOOR information, services or

needed. Exc. benefits pkg. incl. shift differential, mileage supple-ment +++. St. Ann's

Family and Protective Services seeking is qualified candidates for CPS Substitute Care Specialists, CPS Family Based Service Specialists, and CPS Investigator positions in Pampa Borger and Brownfield. package "Pampa High Repair old fence or Monthly salary range is Minimum Qualifications: Fouryear degree from an accredited university. Please apply for job posting of your choice location on-line at

chttps://hhsjobs.hhsc.state.tx us/> Please apply no later than February 18,

WESTAIR Gas and Equipment, L.P. is oking for a Driver Warehouse man. The qualified applican must have a mini Class B CDL with haz-mat en dorsement, pass a drug test, DOT physical and be able to lift up to 50 lbs. Westain a joint venture with Praxair, Inc. which ssures an outstand ng benefit package hich includes medi cal, dental and life in surance, a great 401K olan, along with competitive pay. We have he benefits of a large mpany and the attiude of a small comoany. Come join our eam! We are an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applica ions are available a

50 Building Suppl.

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

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COOKSTOVES, bedroom furn., freezers & complete home furnish-

BEIGE Sectional Couch, \$275. Call 665-1875

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60) or call 806-665

2351 for more infor

mation.

a, TX. @ 740 W

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.

2-13 **CRYPTOQUOTE** 

EA IK JIIQ VZAAB,

BAFAFEABNWJ HZDH HZA

ZDBQAPH FNPKIBHYWAP

DBA HZIPA XZNVZ WALAB ZDMMAW. — T.B.

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: MARRIAGE IS THE ALLIANCE OF TWO PEOPLE, ONE OF WHOM NEVER REMEMBERS BIRTHDAYS AND THE OTHER WHO NEVER FORGETS THEM. — OGDEN NASH

60 Household

Pampa

HOSPICE Care of The KING motionless, Southwest, RN, LVN & drawer bed. Breakfast trimmed or cut down. Home Health Aide po- table & 4 chairs. Southsitions avail. to work west rug. 32 in. Sony Weekly, with our local teams. TV for sale. 663-1106 Rates, 806-356-0026, 1-866-69 Misc.

21 Help Wanted

654-2941 or swhospice.com OFFICE Help Needed. Call 665-1875.

NEED Aide for nights MUST be 6pm-7am Thurs. thru through the Pampa Mon. Must be able to News Office Only. lift. Random drug test. CHESTS, b.r. suite, di-Call between 2p-5p onnette, beds. Red Barn, ly 669-2271

Cable One is look ing for an ambitious individual wants an exciting career TV, High Speed Internet, and Home Telephone Service. Must be able to sell services Door-To-Door

residential homes. Door To Door sale reps, earn a nation average \$28,000 to \$38,000 per year including a base salary, comincentives. Valid driver's license is required. Must work flexible hours & Saturdays. Em ployment dependent upon a pre-hire physical and drug screen, background and DMV screen.

Pick up application at any of the local Cable One offices or

na Litterell, 806 665-5174. Apply on-line www.cableone.net

fax resume to: Don-

CUSTODIAN WANTED White Deer ISD has im-

mediate opening for

Benefits included. High

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2311 ext. 201. Applica-

tions avail.-Adm. Bldg.

601 Omohundro St.

White Deer, TX, 79097

or call 806-883-2311,

Ext. 100 or 101. EOE.

School Diploma

full-time

Lynch,

Principal,

custodian.

Elementary

806-883

ence, limitation, any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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Rates, HBO/Cable/Internet, "We Will Match Any Local Motel Price" WHITE Deer Motel, ADVERTISING Ma-511 W. 2nd St., White terial to be placed in Deer Tx, 883-2572, News Wireless Internet, Cable

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bdr., utilities incl. 120

S. Russell or 665-0415.

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3674 GOATS for sale. Nannies, billy & weined.

5. 665-2767.

Call 665-5852. 70 Musical SANDERSON Stringed Custom

Guitars & Repairs. 323-



NUMEROUS houses in All real estate adver-Pampa area. 2 & 3 bdr tised herein is subject houses, 2 bdr. duplexes, to the Federal Fair 1 bdr. apts. All reasona-Housing Act, which bly priced. 665-4274 makes it illegal to advertise "any prefer-2 bdr. central heat & ence, limitation, or air, 733 N. Zimmers. 2 discrimination because bdr., 505 N. Cuyler. of race, color, religion. Call 440-1969 sex, handicap, familial UPDATED with new status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferdiscrimination." State law also forbids discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept

tile. 2127 N. Nelson, \$850 mo. Call 665-5667 or 570-9824. 2 bdr., washer / dryer hookups. 725 Deane. \$500 mo., \$500 dep. Call 665-5473. 2 & 3 bdr. houses in Pampa. References req. Security dep. 610-929-1761, 806-374-4360. 3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba. in Pampa for rent. \$450 mo. \$350 dep.

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RANCH House Motel, PICK up rental list, in 720 E. Frederic, Pampa, Gray Box, at 125 Tx, 669-1616. Nightly, Houston, Pampa. 99 Stor. Bldgs.

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2 bdr. unfurn. apt. Call Completely remodeled. Cent. h/a. \$72,500. 595for availability. Ref. & deposit req. 669-4386 0234. LARGEST in Pampa. For Sale By Owner Spacious 1&2 bdr. apts. Friendly neighbors. Reas. rates. 665-1875.

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720 & 722 E. Browning 2617 sq. ft. duplex \$99,900 MLS #08-8100

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103 Homes For Sale 2215 Russell, 2/1/1, All new cabinets, c h/a, OWNER WILL hardwood floors, porcelain tile. Very

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121 Trucks

2007 GMC Sierra HD 3/4 ton p/u, grill guard, 4 wd, reg. cab diesel. White w/ black trim. 8540 mi. \$20,000 obo. 806-665-3786

2008 Close Out **2008 TACOMA Pre Runner** 

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N-STOWERS TOYOTA **805 N. Hobart • Pampa • 806-665-1665** 

# DAILY HOROSCOPE

\*\*\* You could see life much differ-

ently if you relax. Add some fun and

humor, and once more your perspective

will change. Be willing to discuss a very

touchy and difficult situation with a part-

ner or family member. Clear the air.

\*\*\* You might enjoy some time

close to home, visiting with neighbors

and family. You rarely slow down

Tonight: Act like it is Saturday night.

thing more difficult than need be

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

from home.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Feb.

14, 2009: You see life from a new perspective this year. Others note this growth and compassion. Often, others put you on a pedestal. You cannot be too clear about what you can and cannot do. Your high energy needs funneling, or you could become sarcastic or brusque. If you are single, you will meet someone through work or through someone you put on a pedestal. If you are attached, the two of you will become closer because of a parent or a community commitment. SCOR-PIO assumes the limelight.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\* Intensity breeds more intensity; be careful whom you relate to and the depth you express. Not everyone can handle deep feelings the way you do. What might feel like a confrontation is really someone acting out. Give this person space. Tonight: Togetherness is the

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) \*\*\* Deferring to others really isn't a problem usually. Someone might push you too far. This person might think that he or she is more in control than he or she really is. All the better if you let him or her think that. Tonight: Sort through GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

\*\* \* Sometimes you push yourself way

too hard. Now is the time to take a break

and relax. Invite a friend to a movie or to

go bowling. Discover just how much fun

you'll have. Tonight: Don't make any-

enough to visit. You might be surprised by what you haven't experienced. Invest in those close to you. Tonight: Entertain

4244, 832-352-1012

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \*\*\*\* Yeep communication flowing. Get to the bottom of a problem, even though you might feel it is difficult or problematic. Others respond to a project with ease. They seem to see the path far differently than you do. Tonight: Meet a friend for dinner. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\* Be aware of innate financial limitations of the moment. Be careful dealing with others who seem to be determined to do their own thing. Your finances could take quite a hit if you risk. Opt not to. Tonight: Honor your budget: SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\*\* Your personality certainly helps you create a lot more of what you desire. The path that you proceed on could involve friends and perhaps a new interest. Someone very close could be extremely threatened. Tonight: Whatever

lights up your life. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\* Keep your own council, and you will be far happier. Though you might want to discuss a changeable situation, you might be better off observing it rather than acting on it. Trust in your ability to sort through what is relevant. Tonight: Hang with your best friend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) \*\*\*\* Let go of heavy concerns, making this a day to be remembered with friends or loved ones. Someone might ask you for your opinion on a money matter, but really isn't interested. Be smart and say no to a risk. Enjoy, but don't go overboard. Tonight: Where the

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\* Others look up to you. They have many different expectations. Be as clear as possible about these expectations in a discussion. Someone will see you a lot differently from in the past if you stress reality, not wishful thinking.

Tonight: A must appearance. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) \*\*\*\* Reach out for someone at a distance. A trip might be in the offing before you are actually ready. Investigate possibilities with an eye to a new path or experience. Accept different habits and styles. Identify rather than criticize.

Tonight: Take in a movie.

**BORN TODAY** Teamster union leader Jimmy Hoffa (1913), TV anchor Hugh Downs (1921), Washington Post reporter Carl Bernstein (1944)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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# More peanut product recalls

By The Associated Press

The following recalls have been announced, because the products could be contaminated with salmonella, an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections, especially in young children, the elderly and those with weakened immune systems:

Hines Nut Co. is recalling select honey roasted peanuts. No illness has been reported. The recalled honey roasted peanuts were sold in Texas between Oct. 1, 2007, and May 30, 2008. Details: by phone at 800-561-6374.

Garden of Life Inc. is recalling select protein supplement bars. No illness has been reported. The recalled bars were sold to stores and online shops, as well as directly to consumers. Details: by phone at 866-

This recall includes the following Perfect Weight America peanut butter crunch bars, item number 101390:

Lot number PBC553537; expiration date 12-19-08

Lot number PBC550808; expiration date 03-20-09. Lot number PBC550948; expi-

ration date 04-03-09. Lot number PBC551938; expi-

ration date 07-11-09. Lot number PBC552058; expi-

ration date 07-23-09. This recall also includes the following bars, item number 101390,

contained in Perfect Weight America Success System Kits, lot 101433-k, and Perfect Weight America Ultimate Success System Kits, lot

money to his emerging technology fund.

Perry announces \$5 million grant

TEMPLE, Texas (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry is

announcing a \$5 million state investment to expand and

recruit researchers at an institute of regenerative medi-

cine. And he's urging the Legislature to keep supplying

Perry announced the grant Thursday for the Texas

A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine's

Institute of Regenerative Medicine at Scott and White.

He says commercialization of adult stem cell research

will help Texans suffering from tissue and organ disor-

ders. He also says it will protect the unborn from

exploitation. Perry has made it clear he supports adult

stem cell research, but not embryonic stem cell

The emerging technology fund is a \$200 million fund created by the Legislature in 2005 at Perry's request.

 Lot number PBC553537; expiration date 12-19-08.

This recall also includes the following fücoPROTEIN peanut butter crunch bars, item number 101390: Lot number PBC553118; expi-

ration date 11-06-09.

- Lot number PBC553668; expiration date 12-31-09.

Nutco Inc., doing business as Germack Pistachio Co., is recalling select sugar-free milk chocolate peanuts. No illness has been reported. The recalled nuts were available in Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and New York. Details: by phone at 313-393-2000.

This recall includes:

Germack Pistachio Co. sugarfree chocolate peanuts; 1-pound bags; UPC 8840148000; best-by

Best Maid Cookie Company Inc. is expanding its earlier recall of select cookie and cookie dough products to include some expired products. No illness has been reported. The recalled products were sold between October and November 2007. Details: by phone at 888-444-0322, extension 105.

This recall includes the following products:

Monster cookies; 2 ounces; product code 70081.

Monster cookies; 3 ounces; product code 70109.

Monster cookie dough; 4 ounces; product code 70089.

Monster cookie dough; 2 ounces; product code 70080.

Monster cookie dough; 1.5 ounces; product code 70086.

Peanut butter peanut cookies; 1

ounce; product code 6116.

Something Better Natural Foods is recalling select peanut products. No illness has been reported. The recalled products were sold direct to consumer and at retail stores nationwide. The recall affects all lot numbers that end with 8 and contain the Code O88 or O89. Details: by phone at 269-965-1199 extension 101.

This recall includes:

Carob coated peanuts; 3.5pound, 1-pound, 12-ounce and 8ounce packages.

Carob coated peanut clusters; 3.5-pound and 12-ounce packages.

- Carob coated fruit and nut clusters; 3.5-pound, 1-pound and 12ounce packages.

- Carob coated mixed nuts; 3.5pound, 1-pound and 8-ounce pack-Carob coated bridge mix; 1-

pound and 8-ounce packages. Honey nut granola; 2-pound

packages. Five-grain granola; 2-pound

packages.

Golden Temple of Oregon LLC is recalling 106 cases of WHA Guru Chew peanut cashew bars. The company said no illnesses have been reported. The recalled products were distributed nationally and sold through health food stores, mail order and specialty food stores. The recalled products are 1.13-ounce individually wrapped bars, with UPC code 7507000101 and item code 450001. The recalled lots include 040909 and 041509. Details: by phone at 541-461-2160.

#### **Explosions near gas processing plant**

CARTHAGE, Texas (AP) - Two explosions near an East Texas gas processing plant sparked grass fires and burned a trailer and several parked vehicles Wednesday, officials said.

No injuries were reported, said Sam Moore, a firefighter and dispatcher with the Carthage Fire Department.

Preliminary reports indicate a gas line near the DCP Midstream East Texas facility ruptured, officials said. The first explosion happened around 10:15 a.m. and a second occurred when emergency personnel were on the scene, the Panola county Sheriff's Office said.

DCP Midstream said it was dispatching an investigation team but it could take several days to identify the

# Cat rescued from 6-story highway pillar

peo

1224 N

HOUSTON (AP) - A lift had to be used to rescue a cat from atop a 6-story concrete support pillar for a Houston elevated freeway.

The striped gray kitty could be heard meowing Wednesday after the Houston SPCA retrieved the cat and put the animal in a transport cage.

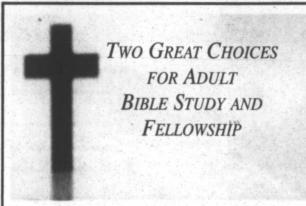
SPCA investigator Charles Jantzen says it appears the cat fell through an expansion joint on the freeway and landed on the pillar. Rescuers aren't sure how long the kitty was stranded.

KHOU-TV video shows Jantzen coaxing, then gently grabbing the kitty. Jantzen says the dehydrated cat would be treated by the SPCA.

The marooned creature was discovered when a nearby resident, Blake McGee, heard meowing Tuesday night and walked near the pillar, then realized the sound was from far above.

The SPCA used equipment, with a extended liftable platform, to reach the cat.

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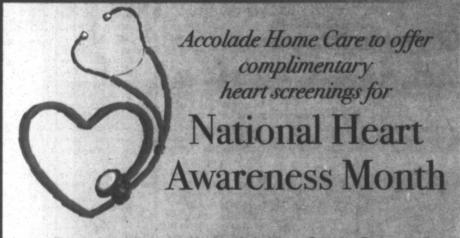


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The Pampa News



In an effort to detect heart health, Accolade Home Care is offering confidential Heart Health screening to Pampa residents on February 20 at United Supermarket, 1420 N. Hobart, Pampa, TX from 8am to 6 pm.

Each year in the U.S. 6 million people are hospitalized due to cardiovascular disease. The number of excess deaths from coronary Heart Disease is projected to rise from 59 in 2020 (an excess of 9%) to 3,600 in 2035.

"Early detection, healthy diet, education of cardiac disease and preventative care is pertinent for the public to know," Dr. Arunava Ray, a cardiologist at the Amarillo Heart Group said.

Accolade screenings take roughly rive to ten minutes and will include a five panel screening that will measure: blood pressure, O2 saturation, weight, cholesterol and BMI. Each screening is administered by a qualified healthcare professional and the results from the screening will be made available to participant. Accolade will also provide individuals with informational sheets explaining their numbers from the screenings.

Morene French understands the importance of getting screened after learning she had 95% blockage in her heart diagnosed through a stress test. At the age of 83, Morene was directed to Accolade Home Care and a vital sign monitor was placed in her home. These monitors are used under medical conditions such as uncontrolled hypertension, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, congestive heart failure and coronary artery disease.

Accolade's program benefits patients by reducing hospital readmissions, ER visits, and enables the patient to better manage their condition. It monitors vital signs such as blood pressure, heart rate, oxygen saturation, temperature and weight. Accolade nurses are connected to patients seven days a week utilizing this vital information to improve early detection.

"The monitor is very easy to use and gives me peace of mind," Morene

For more information about Accolade Home Care's Complimentary heart health screenings, please contact Kristen Kennedy at Kristen.kennedy@fms-regional.com or (940)231-3777.

Contact: Kristen Kennedy Phone: 940-220-2095 Cell: 940-231-3777 Kristen.Kennedy@FMS-Regional.com

