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Water districts need consensus

by David Bowser
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

When the Hemphill County Undergrround Water Conservation District board of directors meets Tuesday evening, they will vote on the same resolution that the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District approved last week.

That resolution, proposed by Groundwater Management Area 1, the

four groundwater districts in the Texas Panhandle, calls for three different goals for conserving the aquifer beneath the region.

The Texas Legislature established groundwater Management Areas earlier this decade in an effort to get neighboring groundwater districts to cooperate in their rule making and planning.

While the initial concern were new single county

groundwater districts downstate, no one predicted that GMA 1, with three of the oldest groundwater districts in the state that cover most of the largest aquifer in the state, would have disagreements with their joint planning, but they have.

The 16 Groundwater Management Areas around state are to determine the desired future conditions of their various aquifers

and submit that to the Texas Water Development Board by Sept. 1, 2010.

GMA 1, unable to reach a consensus, has agreed to disagree, which they are allowed to do under the law, but there could be some far reaching implications with those differences.

Bob Harden, a hydrologist working for Mesa Water, indicated that he thinks the Groundwater

Management Areas could morph into regulatory agencies, replacing local groundwater districts.

"If this fails," C.E. Williams, general manager of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, said of the joint planning effort, "we're not going to like what comes next."

"We need to keep the state out of this," said

Water— cont. on page 3

TWICE AS NICE— X 9



submitted photo

Nine sets of twins currently attend Austin Elementary School. There are eight sets of brother/sister and one set of brother/brother. They are from back: Kambrin and Kamri Scott, Dax and Kaesha Miller, Austin and Weston Hendricks; Middle - Brennen and Brittney Towles, Sierra and Trae Long, Blake and Braeden Christen. Front; Bryson and Brooklyn Hood, Major and Emma Parham, Klaire and Kasey Cambern.

To execute or not: A question of cost?

By DEBORAH HASTINGS
 AP National Writer—

After decades of moral arguments reaching biblical proportions, after long, twisted journeys to the nation's highest court and back, the death penalty may be abandoned by several states for a reason having nothing to do with right or wrong:

Money.

Turns out, it is cheaper to imprison killers for life than to execute them, according to a series of recent surveys. Tens of millions of dollars cheaper, politicians are learning, during a tumbling recession when nearly every state faces job cuts and massive deficits.

So an increasing number of them are considering abolishing capital punishment in favor of life imprisonment, not on principle but out of financial necessity.

"It's 10 times more expensive to kill them than to keep them alive," though most Americans believe the opposite, said Donald McCartin, a former California jurist known as "The Hanging Judge of Orange County" for sending nine men to death row.

Deep into retirement, he lost his faith in an eye for an eye and now speaks against it. What changed a mind so set on the ultimate punishment?

California's legendarily slow appeals system, which produces an average wait of nearly 20 years from conviction to fatal injection — the longest in the nation. Of the nine convicted killers McCartin sent to death row, only one has died. Not by execution, but from a heart attack in custody.

"Every one of my cases is bogged up in the appellate system," said

McCartin, who retired in 1993 after 15 years on the bench.

"It's a waste of time and money," said the 82-year-old, self-described right-wing Republican whose sonorous voice still commands attention. "The only thing it does is prolong the agony of the victims' families."

In 2007, time and money were the reasons New Jersey became the first state to ban executions since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1972.

Democratic Gov. Jon Corzine commuted the executions of 10 men to life imprisonment without parole. Legal costs were too great and produced no result, lawmakers said. After spending an estimated \$4.2 million for each death sentence, the state had executed no one since 1963. Also, eliminating

capital punishment eliminated the risk of executing an innocent person.

Out of 36 remaining states with the death penalty, there are at least eight with pending legislation that could end it — Maryland, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico, Montana, New Hampshire, Washington and Kansas — an uncommon marriage between eastern liberals and western conservatives, built on economic hardship.

"This is the first time in which cost has been the prevalent issue in discussing the death penalty," said Richard Dieter, director of the Death Penalty Information Center, a data clearinghouse that favors abolition of capital punishment.

The most recent arguments against it centered

Death— cont. on page 3

PISD worker OK after fall

by Rachel Stennett
 rstennett@thepampanews.com

Pampa High School was evacuated yesterday (March 6) after a man fell from a ladder and broke a gas line.

A Pampa ISD maintenance employee was climbing down a ladder after doing work on the roof of the school when he fell and hit a gas line to the school. The gas line ruptured and all students and employees were evacuated from the school for a short time, according to PISD Superintendent Barry Haenisch.

"We evacuated the students and Atmos Energy was called immediately," he explained. "They were able to stop the flow of gas after a very brief period of time." Students were outside of PHS less than five minutes for the evacuation.

The PISD employee is in good condition and had minor scrapes and bruises from the incident. He and other workers were on the roof doing repairs before bidding estimates are made next week to repair the existing roof on the high school.

Frosh rewarded for scores

by Rachel Stennett
 rstennett@thepampanews.com

The ninth grade class at Pampa High School will be rewarded with two days of off campus lunch, March 9 and 10, after exceeding their goals on the Benchmark test.

The test is an indication of student scores for the Mathematics TAKS (Texas Assesment of Knowledge and Skills) test, according to Janet Hancock, PHS principal. "It is very important because it is a good indication of which of the 10 objectives is the most difficult for that particular student, and it allows us to spend more

Test— cont. on page 3

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PAMPA FORECAST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		
High 72 Low 46	High 75 Low 46	High 59 Low 28

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 42. Windy, with a west wind 20 to 25 mph decreasing to between 10 and 15 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 72. West northwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.
Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 46. Southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Monday: Sunny, with a high near 75. West southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 46. West southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 59. North northwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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Cash Five Texas results

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:
 Winning numbers drawn: 19-36-24-34-4.
 Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: \$29,185
 Winning ticket purchased in: Perryton
 Matching four of five: 76. Prize: \$173
 Matching three of five: 2,832. Prize: \$11
 Matching two of five: 27,422. Prize: \$2
 Next Cash 5 drawing: Saturday night.

Mega jackpot now \$16 million

ATLANTA (AP) — There has been a rollover in the jackpot for the multistate Mega Millions lottery — to \$16 million.
 The rollover occurred because no player matched all the winning numbers from Friday night's \$12 million drawing.
 The next Mega Millions drawing will be Tuesday night.
 Although there was no grand prize winner, three players won second prizes of \$250,000 apiece. None of those tickets were sold in Michigan. Another 24 players, three in Michigan, won third prizes of \$10,000 apiece.
 The winning numbers from Friday night's drawing were: 11, 18, 37, 46, and 55. The Mega Ball number was 45.

2 Texas A&M students fatally shot Friday

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — A Blinn College student was arrested in the shooting deaths of two siblings who were Texas A&M University students.
 Authorities say John Darrell Thuesen, 25, was taken into custody Friday afternoon at the scene in College Station after calling 911.
 Officers arrived at the two-story home after 12:30 p.m. to find Travis Wilson Joiner, 23, and Rachel Kate Joiner, 21, shot.
 Lt. Rodney Sigler said Thuesen waited for police to arrive at the house and was arrested on two capital murder charges.
 No bond had been set for Thuesen. Jail records did not show an attorney for him.
 Travis Joiner died on arrival at the hospital. Rachel Joiner died after surgery.

NASA planet hunter rockets into space

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA's planet-hunting telescope, Kepler, rocketed into space Friday night on a historic voyage to track down other Earths in a far-away patch of the Milky Way galaxy.
 It's the first mission capable of answering the age-old question: Are other worlds like ours out there?
 Kepler, named after the German astrophysicist, set off on its unprecedented mission at 10:49 p.m.
 "It was just magnificent. It looked like a star was being formed in the sky," said Bill Borucki, Kepler's principal scientist.
 The goal is to find, if they exist, Earth-like planets circling stars in the so-called habitable zone — orbits where liquid water could be present on the surface of the planets.

For the record
Obituaries

B F Dorman, 82

Pampa— B F Dorman, 82, died Friday, March 6, 2009 in Pampa.
 At his request, Mr. Dorman's body was donated to Texas Tech School of Medicine. Memorial mass will be at 11:00 AM Monday, March 9, 2009 at St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church with Rev. Joseph Ravi, associate pastor, officiating. Arrangements are by Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.
 Mr. Dorman was born on Jan. 21, 1927 in Dozier, Texas. He spent his youth on cotton farms in the Texas Panhandle with his parents, six brothers (Bus, Bud, Dave Junior, Charles, Don, and Jerry) and two sisters (Zoella and Viola). He served in the U. S. Army 50th Field Hospital as an X-ray technician in France from 1945-1947. Soon after coming home, he found his beloved, Pauline Semrad, and they married Feb. 14, 1948. He lived the first part of his

adult life in Amarillo. B F studied auto mechanics, worked in the insurance business, and owned and operated a service station before joining Shook Tire Co. in 1959. In 1966, Shook Tire transferred him to Pampa to open and manage a new store. He managed that store for many years, building it into a very successful, well-known business. He then bought the store, naming it Dorman Tire Co., and ran it for several more years before retiring in 1991.
 In his youth, B F and his brothers and sisters loved playing baseball which moved him to be a major sports fan. In the late 1960's, he took up the game of golf and played like a pro as a popular scratch golfer at the Pampa Country Club and later Hidden Hills Golf Club. He competed in many tournaments, winning several times and placing high many times. He never turned down an opportuni-

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Dorman

ty to go on a fishing trip to Colorado or a trip to a casino in his later years.
 B F was well known for his stories, love of games, genuine attitude, love for life, and smiles. He never met a person that he couldn't befriend. He was a devout Catholic and a member of St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church. B F will always bring warm memories to us all. He was preceded in death by his son, Randall Lee Dorman, on Aug. 22, 2008.
 Survivors include his wife, Pauline Dorman, of the home, his daughter, Cathey Sealey and husband Robert of Evergreen, CO, two grandsons; Justin Dorman of Pampa and Ryan Sealey of Edgewater, CO, two granddaughters; Christina Miramontes and husband Ernesto of Lakewood, CO and Jessica Sealey of Evergreen, CO, a great grandson, Vincente

Miramontes of Lakewood, CO, two brothers; Don Dorman of Granbury and Jerry Dorman of Pampa and many loving nieces and nephews.
MEMORIALS: St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church, 810 W. 23rd Pampa, TX 79065 or Cross Ministries in Groom.
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WOULD YOU like a career in the Fire Service? There will be an informational meeting Tuesday, March 10th @ 7 p.m., at the Lovett Memorial Library, 111 N. Houston, north entrance. This meeting will be hosted by the Pampa Fire Department to answer all your questions about the hiring process to become a firefighter for the Pampa Fire Department. If you are interested in joining our team please contact Captain Robert Griffin, at 669-5800. TCFP certified/certifiable and TDSHS EMT-B preferred.

CLARENDON COLLEGE Pampa Center's Cosmetology Dept. is hosting a Fashion Show to benefit the Children's Miracle Network Sun. Mar. 8th, 2pm, in the Pampa Center's Lobby. Admission \$5 per person. Door prizes will be given away!

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Execution 10 times cost of life in prison

Death— cont. from page 1

on the ever-increasing number of convicts cleared by DNA evidence.

Some of the worst cases occurred in Illinois. In 2000, then-Gov. George H. Ryan placed a moratorium on executions after 13 people had been exonerated from death row for reasons including genetic testing and recanted testimony. Ryan declared the system "so fraught with error that it has come close to the ultimate nightmare, the state's taking of innocent life."

He commuted the sentences of all 167 death row convicts, most to life imprisonment without parole. His moratorium is still in effect.

Across the country, the number of prisoners exonerated and released from death row is more than 130, with thousands of appeals clogging the courts.

Death penalty trials are more expensive for several reasons: They often require extra lawyers; there are strict experience requirements for attorneys, leading to lengthy appellate waits while capable counsel is sought for the

accused; security costs are higher, as well as costs for processing evidence — DNA testing, for example, is far more expensive than simple blood analyses.

After sentencing, prices continue to rise. It costs more to house death row inmates, who are held in segregated sections, in individual cells, with guards delivering everything from daily meals to toilet paper.

In California, home to the nation's biggest death row population at 667, it costs an extra \$90,000 per inmate to imprison someone sentenced to death — an additional expense that totals more than \$63.3 million annually, according to a 2008 study by the state's Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice.

The panel, which agreed with California Chief Justice Ronald M. George that the state's death penalty system was "dysfunctional," blamed exorbitant costs on delays in finding qualified public defenders, a severe backlog in appellate reviews, and a high rate of cases being overturned on constitutional grounds.

"Failures in the administration of California's death penalty law create cynicism and disrespect for the rule of law," concluded the 117-page report.

Some prominent Californians have asked Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to get rid of executions. Especially now, as service cuts and tax increases are pegged to fill a \$42 billion budget hole. But it appears that the Republican governor will not abandon capital punishment anytime soon.

Meanwhile, the nationwide number of death sentences handed down has declined over the past decade, from 284 in 1999 to 111 in 2008. Reasons differ significantly, depending on who's providing them: Pro-death penalty activists say it's because crime rates have declined and execution is a strong deterrent; abolitionists say it's because jurors and judges are reluctant to risk taking a life when future scientific tests could prove the accused not guilty.

In Kansas, Republican state Sen. Caroline McGinn is pushing a bill

that would repeal the death penalty effective July 1. Kansas, which voted to suspend tax refunds, faces a budget deficit of nearly \$200 million. McGinn urged fellow legislators "to think outside the box" for ways to save money. According to a state survey, capital cases were 70 percent more expensive than comparable non-death penalty cases.

In New Mexico, Gov. Bill Richardson recently said his longtime support of capital punishment was wavering — and belt-tightening was one of the reasons. As the state tries to plug a \$450 million budget shortfall with cuts to schools and environmental agen-

cies, a bill to end executions has already passed the House as a cost-saving measure. The state supreme court has ruled that more money must be given for public defenders in death penalty cases, but legislators have yet to act.

In Maryland, a 2008 Urban Institute study said taxpayers forked out at least \$37.2 million for each of five executions since the death penalty was re-enacted in 1978. The survey, which examined 162 capital cases, found that simply seeking the death penalty added \$186 million to prosecution costs. Gov. Martin O'Malley, who disdains the death penalty on moral and financial

grounds, is pushing a bill to repeal it.

But if convicted killers get life imprisonment instead of death, is that letting them off easy?

Not a chance, says 52-year-old Gordon "Randy" Steidl. He lived on death row and then in the general prison population, after his sentence was commuted to life. He preferred his former accommodations.

"If you really want to kill someone, give them life without parole," Steidl said in an even voice. He speaks of his troubled past as if it was trapped under glass or locked behind bars — visible but no longer able to torture him.

"It's worse than dying."

Freshman rewarded

Test— cont. from page 1

time teaching the specific areas where the student needs remediation."

In an effort to encourage the students to be serious about the objectives of the Benchmark test, they were offered two days of off campus lunch for good scores. Prior to the test, teachers and students in the mathematics depart-

ment worked for two months to meet three specific objectives for the test.

"The freshman students more than met the goals that had been set for these objectives," Hancock said. "The students are very excited about their success and about their reward of being able to leave campus for lunch..."

The students will be allowed to leave campus during their lunch, either fourth or fifth period, on March 9 and 10. The ninth grade lunch periods will be from 11 to 11:50 and 11:55 to 12:45. Parents with questions are encouraged to call the high school.

Water district consensus

Water— cont. from page 1

Marvin "Marty" Jones, an attorney with Sprouse Schrader Smith in Amarillo.

Ten years and some lawsuits ago, the White Deer-based Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District made water law for the state.

Now, it appears that GMA 1 will be at the forefront of developing state water law, which can be an expensive, ugly and litigious process.

GMA 1 is proposing that 40 percent of the water in the aquifer in the western counties of the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District remain in storage at the end of 50 years, that 80 percent of the water in the aquifer beneath Hemphill County remain in place in 50 years and that 50 percent of the water in the aquifer remain in the other counties in the panhandle at the end of that period.

At the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District meeting last week, Harden, Jones and Steve Stevens with Mesa Water all praised the Panhandle district for its stand on setting the desired future condition in the district at 50 percent in 50 years, known as the 50-50 rule, but they wanted the district to vote against the GMA resolution that would allow differing desired future conditions for different areas of the panhandle.

Gray County rancher John R. Spearman, Jr., said that as president of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District and its representative to GMA 1, he fought for one uniform desired future condition for the area, but was

voted down. Still, Harden said Mesa had to deal with different rules from different groundwater districts.

Mesa has about 200,000 acres of water rights in five counties across three groundwater districts and the difference in storage mandates would affect pumping and, therefore, the value of those water rights.

Jones said he thinks that differing water storage goals are a violation of his clients' constitutional rights.

Spearman said that is Hemphill County's district board's prerogative. The Panhandle district, he said, can't impose its will on

another district.

Gray County rancher Charles Bowers said that if the people of Hemphill County disagree with their groundwater board, they could change the board.

"They have elections every two years," Bowers said.

But it may not be the electoral process that brings about attempts at change.

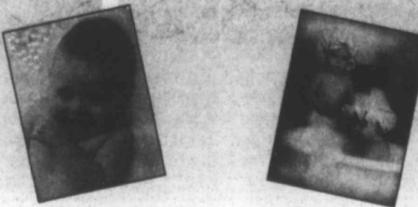
"I would suggest that the folks in Hemphill County can vote to take my clients water," Jones said, "but it's not going to make any difference to the court system because it's still a constitutional taking."

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Please join us at the
"PJHS GROUND BREAKING"



The Pampa ISD Board of Trustees invites you to join us at the ground breaking for the new Pampa Junior High School. This project is part of the 2006 Bond Improvements Program.

5:00 Tuesday, March 10, 2009

At the construction site:
 4000 Bad Cattle Company Drive

Pampa ISD Events for the Week of March 9-14

Watch this space every Sunday for a weekly listing of non-athletic events from every campus in our school district

Texas Public School Week

Pampa High School
 March 9 • Lady Harvester Basketball Banquet • 7:00 p.m.
 March 10 • Nona Payne Band Concert • Calvary Baptist • 7:00 p.m.
 March 10 • Harvester Basketball Banquet • 7:00 p.m.
 March 12 • Progress Reports

Pampa Junior High School
 March 9 • Open House • 6:00 p.m.
 March 10 • Student Council • 7:30 a.m.
 March 10 • Progress Reports Distributed

Lamar Elementary
 March 9-13 • Celebrate Texas Public School Week-Come and Enjoy Lunch with your Child
 March 10 • Kindergarten, 2nd & 4th Grade Field Trip • Amarillo
 March 10 • Kid's Cafe • 5:30-6:30 p.m.
 March 11 • 3rd Grade Field Trip • Amarillo
 March 13 • DEAR Day

Travis Elementary
 March 12 • 2nd Grade to Amarillo Globe News Center
 March 12 • 5th Grade to Palo Duro Canyon
 March 12 • Open House • 6:00 p.m.

Wilson
 March 9-13 • Book Fair
 March 9 • Kid's Cafe • 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
 March 10 • Family Night at the Book Fair • 6:00 p.m.
 March 12 • Open House • 6:00 p.m.
 March 13 • Lunch with Someone Special

March 12 • School Board Meeting • 5:30 p.m.

For the most up-to-date Pampa ISD information, Go to the school website at www.pampaisd.net From the parent connection drop-down menu, click on the Pampa ISD Event Calendar

Viewpoints

Today in History

By The Associated Press
 Today is Saturday, March 7, the 66th day of 2009. There are 299 days left in the year. A reminder: Daylight-saving time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday. Clocks move forward one hour.
 Today's Highlight in History:
 On March 7, 1965, a march by civil rights demonstrators was broken up in Selma, Ala., by state troopers and a sheriff's posse.
 On this date:
 In 1793, during the French Revolutionary Wars, France declared war on Spain.
 In 1850, in a three-hour speech to the U.S. Senate, Daniel Webster endorsed the Compromise of 1850 as a means of preserving the Union.
 In 1875, composer Maurice Ravel was born in Ciboure, France.
 In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell received a patent for his telephone.

'The most dangerous creation of any society is that man who has nothing to lose.'

— James Baldwin
 American writer

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Ten years ago: Movie director Stanley Kubrick, whose films included "Dr. Strangelove," "A Clockwork Orange" and "2001: A Space Odyssey," died in Hertfordshire, England, at age 70.

Five years ago: Fourteen Palestinians were killed in the deadliest Israeli raid in Gaza in 17 months. An investiture ceremony was held in Concord, N.H., for V. Gene Robinson, the Episcopal Church's first openly gay bishop. Actor Paul Winfield died at age 64.

One year ago: On the heels of a gloomy report that 63,000 jobs were lost in February 2008, President George W. Bush said "it's clear our economy has slowed" as he tried to reassure an anxious public that the long-term outlook was good.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Alan Sues is 83. Photographer Lord Snowdon is 79. TV personality Willard Scott is 75. Auto racer Janet Guthrie is 71. Actor Daniel J. Travanti is 69. Former Walt Disney Co. chief executive officer Michael Eisner is 67. Rock musician Chris White (The Zombies) is 66. Actor John Heard is 63. Rock singer Peter Wolf is 63. Rock musician Matthew Fisher (Procol Harum) is 63. Football Hall-of-Famer Franco Harris is 59. Football Hall-of-Famer Lynn Swann is 57. Rhythm-and-blues singer-musician Ernie Isley (The Isley Brothers) is 57. Actor Bryan Cranston is 53. Actress Donna Murphy is 50. Actor Nick Searcy is 50. Golfer Tom Lehman is 50. Tennis Hall-of-Famer Ivan Lendl is 49. Actress Mary Beth Evans is 48. Actor Bill Brochtrup is 46. Opera singer Denyce Graves is 45. Comedian Wanda Sykes is 45. Singer-actress Taylor Dayne is 44. Rock musician Randy Guss (Toad the Wet Sprocket) is 42. Actor Peter Sarsgaard is 38. Actress Rachel Weisz is 38. Classical singer Sebastien Izambard (Il Divo) is 36.



No margin for error

By Talmadge Heflin

Just how much money should Texas businesses pay under the newly revised franchise tax? That is the question many legislators are trying to answer and one that will soon be up for serious debate.

Calls for re-examining the revised franchise tax (a/k/a the margin tax) have been growing in number as the economy retracts and more Texans lose their jobs. But the economic decline is only part of the reason people are taking a second look at the new business tax.

According to the Comptroller's latest revenue estimate, the margin tax collected \$4.5 billion from Texans after only its first full year — a whopping 46 percent increase over the amount collected from the old tax the year before — making it the second costliest tax in the state.

And while an increase in business taxes was expected to some degree, the higher taxes were supposed to be offset by lower property taxes. While school district property taxes did decline by \$2.3 billion from 2005 to 2007, according to the Texas Taxpayers and Research Association Texans' total property tax bills still increased by \$1.7 billion — making for higher taxes on two fronts.

Making matters even worse is that all businesses with at least \$300,000

in total revenue are subject to the margin tax, whether or not a business made money. Since the tax is based on gross receipts rather than profitability, many businesses above the \$300,000 threshold that were unable to turn a profit have been forced to make an impossible choice: close up shop, or take out a loan to pay their tax bill and hope that their business improves.

Hit with a gigantic first year tax increase, continually rising property taxes, and an added "do-or-die" pressure, it's no surprise that many Texas businesses are crying foul.

Fortunately, a number of lawmakers from both sides of the political aisle seem to have taken notice of the issue and have made it a top priority this session. Among some of the more promising proposals that have been filed:

- Four legislators have filed identical bills that would exempt businesses with \$1 million or less in total revenues from the margin tax. Presently, only businesses with \$300,000 or less in total revenue are exempt.

- Another proposal would amend the constitution to require a three-fourths supermajority vote from each house to increase the margin tax rate any further.

- The boldest proposal would

move the business tax exemption threshold from \$300,000 to \$600,000 starting in 2010; \$1 million in 2011; and repeal the tax altogether in 2014.

Reforming the margin tax is the first major step the Legislature can take to help businesses and consumers weather the ongoing economic storm, but it is only the first step.

Beyond lowering taxes, the Legislature needs to tighten its belt and rein in spending. Remember, if legislators can't keep budget growth in check today, then taxes will have to be raised tomorrow.

As the margin tax debate grows to a climax over the next three months, you can be sure that businesses everywhere are watching closely — not because businesses are greedy or don't want to pay their fair share. They are watching because their very livelihoods depend on it. They are watching because for them, there is no margin for error.

The Honorable Talmadge Heflin is Director of the Center for Fiscal Policy at the Texas Public Policy Foundation, a non-profit, free-market research institute based in Austin. He is a former Chairman of the Texas House Appropriations Committee.

High cost lenders profit from desperate times

By Rebecca Lightsey

As more businesses close and unemployment lines lengthen, a virtually unregulated sector of the Texas economy continues to rake in huge profits by providing high-cost payday and auto title loan services that often drag desperate families deeper into financial crisis.

A Texas-based provider of such loans recently reported record-breaking annual revenues topping \$1 billion and a net income of \$81 million.

So how do small-dollar loan companies make this kind of profit in the middle of the nation's worst economic crisis since the Great Depression?

In Texas, the answer is clear: they exploit a loophole in state law that allows them to operate as unregulated "credit services organizations" (CSOs).

In 2005, there were fewer than 100 CSOs in Texas. Today, nearly 400 payday, auto title, and other lenders operate more than 2,000 CSO storefronts offering high cost small loans across the state. CSOs in Texas were originally established to control credit repair businesses; however, in the past few years, small dollar lenders are operating as CSOs under a statutory loophole that allows them to obtain

"an extension of consumer credit" for borrowers.

Unlike other lenders in Texas, CSOs are not subject to any limitation on the fees they can charge. CSOs routinely offer loans with costs exceeding 500 percent Annual Percentage Rate (APR) — making these loans among the most costly in the country.

At the same time, CSOs also are able to sidestep licensing and enforcement by the state's Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner, which holds other Texas consumer lenders accountable.

Borrowers stung by these CSO loan deals, with high fees and onerous terms, find it almost impossible to escape a widening sinkhole of debt.

One Austin woman recently reported taking out two payday loans totaling \$1,800 from registered CSOs. Because she is not allowed to pay down the principal without paying the loan in full, she must pay over \$400 every two weeks to renew the loans. Despite taking a second job and already paying \$600 to retire the first \$1,000 loan, she still owes \$1,200 on

it, and the second loan, still unpaid is racking up its own renewal fees.

Texans take out an estimated \$2.5 billion in loans

through CSO payday lenders each year and pay an additional \$500-\$600 million in annual fees.

Low-income Texans, primarily working women and minorities, disproportionately use payday loans. According to a recent Texas Appleseed survey of low-income payday borrowers, 58 percent of those borrowers could not pay off their loan, plus fees and interest, by the next payday.

Financial regulators in Florida and Michigan recognized this CSO scheme as an evasion of existing laws against predatory lending, and some CSOs, still operating in Texas, closed up shop in those states.

Congress imposed a 36 percent APR rate cap in 2007 on all payday and other short-term loans to

the military, and 15 states and the District of Columbia have a similar provision in place for all residents. Already, some Texas cities — including San Antonio, Richardson and Mesquite — have passed ordinances restricting the rapid growth of CSOs within their city limits.

Now, it is time for state lawmakers to protect Texas consumers and hold CSOs accountable to the same regulatory standards that apply to mainstream lenders. Texas has a long-held tradition of opposing usury—lending money with excessive interest rates and fees — and CSOs should not operate as the exception to the rule.

Lightsey is executive director of Texas Appleseed, a nonprofit public interest law center.

We welcome your letters

To insure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.

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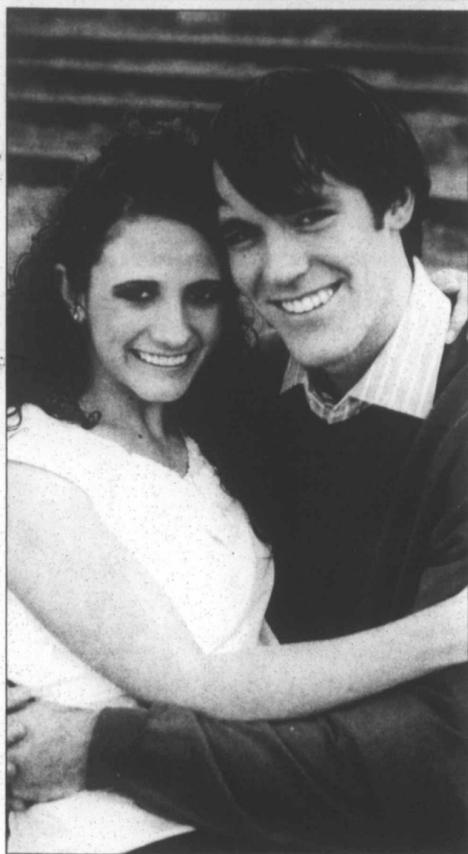
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May 9 wedding set for Jordan, Newton

Royce and Kim Jordan, former residents of Pampa, announce the engagement of their daughter, Tara Brooke Jordan to Bradley Lane Newton, both of Lubbock.

The couple plans to marry Saturday, May 9th, 2009 at The Legacy in Lubbock.

The groom's parents are Bob and Kim Newton of Midland.

Tara is a 2004 Graduate of Pampa High School and a 2007 graduate of Texas Tech University with a B.S. in General Studies. She is a realtor with Keller Williams Realty in Lubbock.

Bradley is a 2003 Graduate of Midland High School, a 2007 graduate of Texas Tech University with a B.S., and will graduate with a Doctorate in Physical Therapy from Texas Tech University Health Science Center in August 2009.



Schiffman, Aycock to wed March 21

The parents of Bonnie J. Schiffman and Jeffrey W. Aycock are very proud to announce their engagement.

Bonnie is a recent magna cum laude graduate of Texas Tech University with a degree in Interior Design. Bonnie's parents are Bobby J. and Rosemary Schiffman of Pampa.

Jeff is a recent cum laude graduate of Texas Tech University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is currently working for Zachry Engineering Corporation in Amarillo. Jeff's parents are Steve and Kandy Aycock of Amarillo.

The wedding will be held on March 21, 2009 at the Westside church of Christ in Pampa.

SENIOR MENUS

Southside Senior Citizens Center
 Tuesday Luncheon
 11:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m.
 Donation: \$6.00

March 10, 2009
 Menu- Fried catfish, french fries, corn on the cobb, salad, dessert

Pampa Senior Citizens, Inc.
 March 9 through March 13, 2009 Menu

Monday- Chicken fried steak or chicken and ham tetrazzini, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, beets, beans, slaw, tossed salad, jello salad, banana/pecan cake or lemon pie, hot rolls or cornbread

Tuesday- Chicken pot pie or Salisbury steak, tater tots, spinach, butterbread squash, beans, slaw, tossed salad, jello salad, carrot cake or cherry cobbler, hot rolls or cornbread

Wednesday- Roast beef brisket/brown gravy or cook's choice, mashed potatoes, peas, carrots, beans, slaw, tossed salad,

jello salad, Black Forest cake or vanilla pudding cups, hot rolls or cornbread

Thursday- Chicken strips or pepper steak/rice, scalloped potatoes, Scandinavian blend, creme corn, beans, slaw, tossed salad, jello salad, strawberry cake or chocolate icebox pie, hot rolls or cornbread

Friday- Catfish and hushpuppies or lasagna, potato wedges, broccoli casserole, beans, slaw, tossed salad, jello salad, brownies, tapioca cups, garlic breadsticks, hot rolls or cornbread

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Food & Beverages will be served

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Free Admission

Furniture, clothing, florals, Watkins products, saddles, candles, hand-made crafts, & much more!

Date: March 7th & 8th

Saturday: 9am to 6 pm

Sunday: 10am to 5 pm

Borger's Aluminum Dome

Please bring canned food for Helping Hands

Harvesters 3-0 at Snyder going into final round

by Kevin Hunt

Behind a strong pitching performance from Jeremy Maxwell the Pampa Harvesters defeated the Perryton Rangers by a score of 12-2 in Snyder on Friday. The game was called during the bottom of the fifth inning because of the 10 run rule.

Maxwell also led Pampa at the plate going 3 for 4 with four RBIs and one run scored. Blake Sieck scored with a double and two runs. Brett Powell was on base three times and scored two runs. Ryne Funderburg added a single and two runs. Mitchell Killgo with a triple, two runs and 2 RBIs, Braden Hunt with a double, one run and 2 RBIs, Madison Wilson added a run and an RBI and John Luke Covalt a single and he scored 1 run.

Pampa's defense was solid—they committed no errors.

With one more win on Saturday morning, Pampa could play in the championship game on Saturday night.

The Pampa Harvester baseball team won their first two games by defeating Slaton 10-5. They then turned around to beat the defending 3A State Champions Snyder Tigers by a score of 5-3.

In game one, Pampa overcame a sluggish start, and battled back from a 5-1 deficit.

Anthony Allen started the game on the mound for Pampa, and was the victim of several Pampa errors. With the score 4-1 in the bottom of the second, Braden Hunt came in to finish the game, giving up no runs and only one hit. Hunt struck out four and walked four and was credited with the win.

Pampa was led by Mitchell Killgo who went 2 for 4 with a single and a double. Killgo scored two runs and had one RBI. Hunt added a double and an RBI and also scored 2 runs.

Brett Powell added 2 RBIs. Also getting hits for Pampa was Ryne Funderburg, Madison Wilson, Jeremy Busse and John Luke Covalt. Busse also scored 2 runs for Pampa.

In game two, Pampa faced the hometown team and defending 3A State Champs from Snyder. Pampa jumped out early to a 2-0 lead, when Ryne Funderburg singled and scored on a triple by Killgo. Wilson then singled home Killgo to give Pampa that 2-0 lead. In the top of the 3rd, Pampa would score 2 runs after Powell was hit by a pitch (his 6th of the season) and then Killgo crushed an 0-1 pitch way over the right center field fence for a 2 run home run.

That gave Pampa a 4-0 lead. In the top of the fifth, Pampa added a much needed insurance run, after Powell walked and then took third base on an errant pick-off attempt. Funderburg then hit a line drive double to right center to score Powell.

Snyder scored 1 in the bottom of the 5th on a home run, then would add 2 more runs in the bottom of the 6th. In the bottom of the 7th, Snyder would get the potential winning run to the plate, but could not score.

Pampa pitcher Blake Sieck, after undergoing surgery over a year ago, pitched a complete game for Pampa striking out 15 hitters in seven innings. Sieck walked four and gave up six hits. In the last inning, with the game on the line, he struck out the side.

Pampa improved their record to 8-1 on the year. They play Perryton on Friday at 11:30 and then Lubbock Christian on Saturday morning at 11:30. If they win both games, they will be the pool champions and will play for the tournament championship tonight at 7 p.m.

LIONS SWEETHEART



Victoria Robinson Campbell is the Pampa Lions Club Sweetheart for February. Victoria is the daughter of Martha Campbell and the late Bob Campbell and granddaughter of Anne and the late Jim Campbell of Pampa and Dr. Jerry and Mary Crockett of Stillwater, Oklahoma, is the Pampa Lions Club February sweetheart. Victoria has been involved in junior varsity track and basketball, varsity volleyball, as well as choir where she participated in musicals, Evening on Broadway, and contests. She is on the Student Crime Stoppers board and is a member of SADD, Astra, and Interact, participating in drug free activities at the elementary schools and recycling projects around town. She is a member of the First United Methodist Church of Pampa. Her future plans include attending college at either Oklahoma State, Kansas State, or McMurry University.

PJHS ground breaking

The Pampa ISD Board of Trustees will hold a ground breaking ceremony for the new Pampa Junior High School campus at 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, at the construction site, 4000 Bad Cattle Company Drive. The public is invited to attend.

This project is a part of the 2006 Bond Improvements Program.

Support our students!!!



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Around town

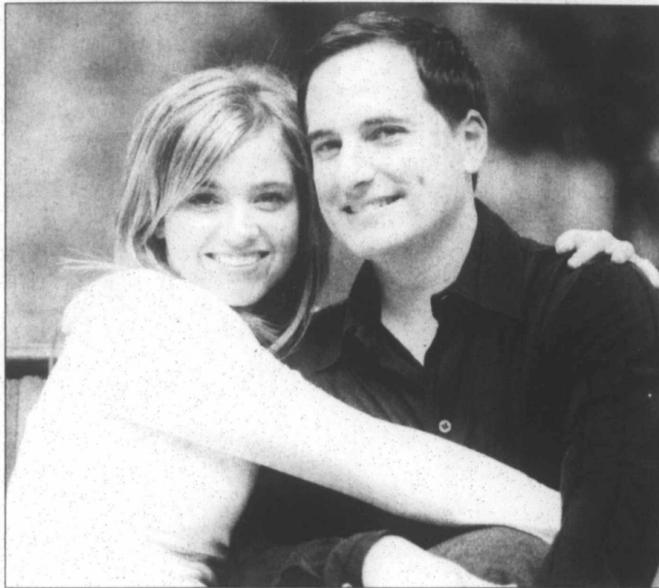
May 9 wedding for Street, Browne

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew and Janie Street from Pampa Texas are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Britteny Carol Street to Ryan Jon Browne, son of Dr. Jon and Angela Browne of Leawood, Kansas.

The future bride is a 2000 graduate of Pampa High School and a 2004 graduate of Texas Tech University where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications. She is currently a District Service Manager for General Motors in Dallas Texas.

The groom is a 1993 graduate of University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government and International Studies and a 1996 graduate of Southern Methodist University School of Law with a Juris Doctor. He is currently a Principal with the law firm of Heygood, Orr, Reyes, Pearson, & Bartolomei in Dallas Texas.

The couple is planning to wed on May 2, 2009, at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Amarillo.



Preceptor Theta Iota/Beta Sigma Phi

The Preceptor Theta Iota/Beta Sigma Phi chapters met on February 23, 2009, at the residence of hostess Pat Kindle at 2609 Dogwood. Monica Leonard, Vice President, presided. Nancy Brogdon, Recording Secretary, called roll and read minutes from the previous meeting which were approved. Janice Hubbard, Treasurer, gave the treasurer's report, and the committee reports were given. The correspondence was read, and an invitation to the American Heart Association Benefit on February 28, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the AmericInn Starlight Ballroom was given to all members. Barbara Benyshek gave the program. The next meeting will take place at the residence of Phyllis Jeffers at 1101 Mary Ellen on March 9, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.



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WELCOME



Tristen Edward Shackelford

Tristen Edward Jade, Erick, and Jasmine Shackelford was welcomed into the world by parents John and Tina Shackelford of Pampa, Texas, siblings Rylee,

Hospital. Tristen weighed 6 lbs. 10.2 oz., and was 19.5" long at birth.

Barbie's real-life Dream House created in Malibu

MALIBU, Calif. (AP) — Barbie's Malibu Dream House is coming true.

On the eve of her 50th birthday, interior decorator Jonathan Adler has decked out a real-life 3,500-square-foot pad overlooking the Pacific Ocean to look like the blond doll's outrageous home.

Adler, who was commissioned by toy maker Mattel Inc. to decorate the house for Monday's party, said outfitting the sleek mansion (a property that's frequently rented for film and photography shoots) took six months of planning and a few weeks to install.

The closet is filled with 50 pairs of pink peep-toe

shoes while her kitchen is stocked with cupcake-making ingredients. An in-house museum features 25 vintage Barbie dolls on display. In the garage? A pink Volkswagen New Beetle with a motorized pop-up vanity in the trunk.

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ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC. OF PAMPA



Altrusan Pat Johnson receives 25-year membership plaque from Barb Hahn, Altrusa President. Johnson became an Altrusa member in September, 1981.

Altrusa Club meets

Altrusa International, Inc. of Pampa met February 24, 2009 at First United Methodist Church with President Barb Hahn presiding. Mary Fulton served as greeter. Guests attending were Jana Vinson, Carol Ihne and Sheila Winton.

The Accent was presented by Lynn Switzer who explained the Altrusa district structuring procedure. The Pampa Altrusa Club which was chartered in 1953 is in District Nine. Pat Johnson received a 25-year membership plaque. Johnson became an Altrusa member in 1981.

In observation of Add an Altrusan Day the following members reported on the Altrusa service projects: Make a Difference Day, Terry Gamblin, Children's Shopping Tour, Judy Warner Travis, Reading, Julia Sparkman, Tralee Crisis Center, Mayda King Travis, Veterans, Day Program, Karen Bridges, ASTRA Rochelle Lacy, Meals on Wheels and Schneider House, Myrna Orr, Altrusa Accents, Lynn Switzer, Fundraising, Eileen Kludt.

Brenda Tucker, District Governor, also spoke on the benefits of being an Altrusan. District Conference will be held in Killeen April 17-19. Registration forms need to be postmarked by March 15 for early rate.

Altrusa Style Show will be held April 25 at First Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 10:00 a.m.

Sandra McKinney and Georgia Johnson were recognized for having February birthdays.

The next meeting will be held March 10 at noon at First United Methodist Church.

5 people killed in accident

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Five people, including three children, died Friday in a collision northwest of Lubbock.

Two women were injured in the wreck, which involved a sedan containing six people and a sport utility vehicle occupied by one person.

Both drivers were taken to University Medical Center, Department of Public Safety Cpl. John Gonzales said.

Authorities said one vehicle was traveling eastbound on Farm-to-Market Road 2641 and the SUV was northbound on County Road 1700 when the

crash occurred around 4 p.m. They collided in the middle of an intersection and went off the road in a nearby field.

The dead included three young boys in the back seat of the sedan, along with an adult male who was seated in the back. A female passenger in the front was also killed.

Front and side air bags deployed in the SUV.



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Around town

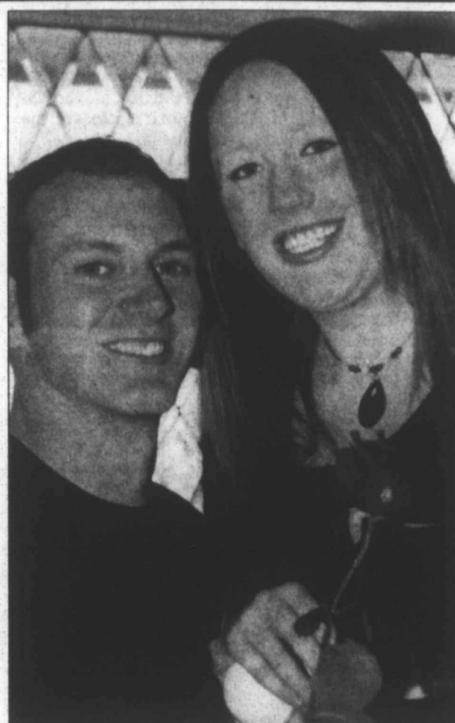
Crain, Richards to wed May 16



Mr. and Mrs. Bill Crain of Pampa, Texas, announce the engagement of their daughter Maegan Nichole Crain to Mr. Zed Joseph Richards. The wedding is planned for Saturday May 16, 2009, at Cottonwood Springs Guest Ranch.

Ammons, Mickley set May 30 date

Lindsey Dale Ammons of Weatherford, Oklahoma, and Kyle Mickley of Weatherford, Oklahoma, announce their engagement. The wedding will take place Saturday, May 30, 2009 at the First Baptist Church in Pampa, Texas. Parents of the bride are Dale and LeeAnn Ammons of Pampa, Texas. Parents of the groom are Ernie and Gala Mickley of Carnegie, Oklahoma. Lindsey is graduate of Pampa High School, class of 2005, and will graduate from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in May 2009 with a B.S. in Special Education. She is also currently employed at Southwestern Oklahoma State University as a resident assistant. Kyle is a graduate of Carnegie High School, class of 2003, and recently graduated from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in December of 2008 with a B.A. in History Education. He is currently employed at Weatherford Golf Course.



Good Samaritan February newsletter

We need representatives from member churches. Please continue to show your support by attending our next meeting. We meet every other month for one hour. Our next Board meeting will be: Thursday, March 26, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. at 309 N. Ward. Churches that financially support Good Sam are eligible to have representation on the Board of Directors. January 2009: Families in (437) New included in count (48), Families Not Helped (10) Families Helped (427) Total in families (1,474), Food (399), Clothing (138), Utilities (46), Medical (7), Lodging (4), Transportation (7), Other (48).

GOOD SAM'S "BLESSINGS"

1. Future volunteers' in training. The Youth at the First Presbyterian Church held a "Super Bowl Sunday" party and donated the proceeds to Good Sam's.

2. The retired men of Pampa, willing to volunteer their time, pick-ups and expertise in repairing things: Jim Burton, Neil Fulton, Clyde Laycock, James Richardson, Jerry South, Lee Brown (with their friends and neighbors and relatives) have delivered many trays of bread!

Our special thanks: 1. Rasco Construction for repairing our "broken" garage door so promptly

and donating the cost to Good Samaritan.

2. Four members of the clergy attending our January '09 Board Meeting.

3. All the baby food donated by the churches.

4. Best Western Motel for donating many white towels and sheets.

5. Mrs. Baird's Bread store for sharing their extra bread and goodies.

NEEDS FOR MARCH 2009: Men's tennis shoes, Men's jeans (30-34), children's shoes all sizes, boys' jeans sizes 8-9-10, skilletts, pots and pans, deoderant, shampoo, and BROWN PAPER SACKS.

Pampan finalist for White House Fellows

WASHINGTON, DC — The White House announced today that 108 outstanding men and women from across the country have been selected as Regional Finalists for the White House Fellows Program. Founded in 1964 by President Lyndon Johnson, the White House Fellows Program is the nation's most prestigious program for leadership and public service.

The finalists include H Clay Lyle of Woodbridge, VA. Lyle was born, raised, and graduated High School in Pampa. He is a Major in the U.S. Army currently assigned to the Pentagon and was awarded the Silver Star in 2003 for my actions in Iraq. He is the son of Dr. Robert and Lou Lyle.

During March and April 2009, Regional Finalists will participate in a rigorous interview process. Based on the results of these interviews, approximately thirty candidates will be named National Finalists. The President's Commission on White House Fellowships will interview the National Finalists in June 2009 and then recommend candidates to President Barack Obama for a one-year

appointment as White House Fellows.

Selection as a White House Fellow is highly competitive and based on a record of remarkable professional achievement, evidence of leadership poten-

tial, a proven commitment to public service, and the knowledge and skills necessary to contribute successfully at the highest levels of the Federal government.

Don't forget! Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday!

OPTIMIST BASEBALL/SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS

will be this week Monday through Thursday, March 9-12, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Optimist Club, for boys and girls 5 to 15 years of age.

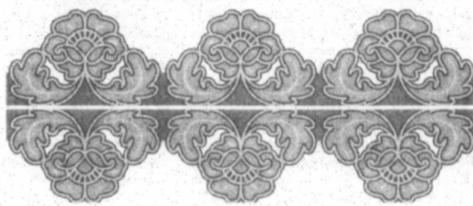
The playing fee for players 9 to 15 is \$85

The playing fee for players 5 to 8 is \$70

For more information

Contact Kevin Davis at 664-2542

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is a Pampa United Way agency



HARVESTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

2009



SOCCER

MONDAY - MARCH 9

Harvesters JV VS Palo Duro • 4:30 pm at Palo Duro
Lady Harvesters VS Caprock • 5:00 pm at Dick Bivins
Harvesters VS Caprock 7:00 pm at Dick Bivins
Lady Harvesters VS Canyon • 12:00 pm at Pampa

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SOCCER

CARLOS MENDOZA

Carlos has become an important part of the rebuilding process for the boys' team. His confidence has increased and he is very composed in high-pressure situations. His first touch has improved drastically, allowing him to play the ball out of trouble and start the counter attack quicker. He has a bright future.

KYLEE WARINER

Kylee is a great competitor and has battled through a tough Senior year fighting injuries and fatigue. Last Friday against Palo Duro, Kylee was put in the game in the first half and the girls scored two goals and the pace and intensity of the game picked up tremendously. She was limited to about 20 minutes the entire game due to an injury, but she helped the team find a spark.

WRESTLING

STEVEN BOTELLO **JEREMY MAXWELL**

Great Job at the State Meet!

Wednesday night shuttle launch is official

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — It's official: NASA has finally settled on a Wednesday night launch for space shuttle Discovery.

The flight to the international space station was originally set for mid-February, but was delayed four times because of concern over critical shuttle valves. On Friday, senior

NASA managers meeting at Kennedy Space Center put the valve issue to rest for Discovery and cleared the shuttle for flight.

Seven astronauts will ride Discovery into orbit, taking with them one final set of solar wings for the space station.

Launch director Mike Leinbach said spirits are much higher now than they

were when the flight kept being put off.

"The mood is very, very upbeat," he said. With a firm launch date now, "everybody feels really good."

Managers had ordered extensive testing of the hydrogen gas valves after one broke during the last shuttle launch. The valves control the flow of hydro-

gen gas feeding into the external tank during the 8 1/2-minute climb to orbit.

The broken valve didn't cause any problems, but NASA wanted to make certain that there was little chance of rupturing Discovery's downstream lines by a valve fragment and, if that did happen, it would not be catastrophic.

A new technique for finding cracks in the steel valves helped convince engineers, over the past two weeks, that the three now in Discovery's engine are free of defects. Valves were replaced when the new method found tiny cracks.

Space shuttles have likely flown many times before with bigger cracks in the valves, believed to be the result of wear-and-tear, and the valves remained intact, said shuttle program manager John Shannon.

Bill Gerstenmaier, head of NASA's space operations, said he cautioned the shuttle team that "it's time to step back from the issue of the day and think about all the other things we

need for flight readiness."

There is a slightly increased risk of danger, for instance, because of last month's two-satellite wreck in orbit. The odds of a catastrophic hit by a piece of space junk is an estimated 1-in-318 for Discovery's two-week mission because of all the extra satellite scrap now circling Earth. Before the satellite collision, the odds were 1-in-336, said Gerstenmaier.

NASA has until March 16 to launch Discovery before having to wait until April. A Russian Soyuz rocket is scheduled to blast off March 26 with a fresh space station crew, and the shuttle needs to be gone by then.

DAILY HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, March 8, 2009:

This year, your daily life could be subject to change. At times, you might feel that what is happening isn't for the better, but it ultimately will be. Eliminate what is no longer functioning in your life, and you will discover a revitalization in the year that follows. Often, the status quo will blow out on you. Learn ways of dealing with hard feelings. If you are single, even if you meet Mr. or Ms. Perfect, don't look at this bond as being long-term until it is. If you are attached, take up a new hobby together. Build closeness and connectivity in your bond. LEO can push hard.

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)

***** The dynamics between you and another person shine most of the time, but don't be surprised by an awkward moment or two. Your way of dealing with an issue changes dramatically as you gain a better sense of what is occurring. Tonight: Shine and enjoy.

This Week: Kick into work mode Monday, and maintain that pace through Wednesday. Slack up a bit Thursday.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

*** Though spunky in the a.m., you discover that a lot is going on. Your sense of humor and fun wake up with you. Slowly but surely, you become a little lazy or low-key. Think positively, and you'll gain. Tonight: Home really is where the heart is.

This Week: While others hem and haw, you pop up with idea after idea. Share more.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** Understand what needs to occur within your immediate framework and pals. Help others relax, and you too will be a lot happier than in the past. Let humor flow, and you will be content and easygoing. Tonight: Be willing to share more.

This Week: Pressure builds on the home front. Allow this to be a passage, as opposed to a life issue.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

*** Your sign is often wound up in financial security. This type of attitude could cause a problem, often tossing your emotional priorities in the air. You might not want to change this tendency, but do be aware of it. Tonight: Take a hard look at your budget.

This Week: Express your sensitivity and endurance. Others respond well to that mix.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** You make a smashing appearance wherever you are. Don't push too hard to accomplish the impossible. Remain upbeat and positive, and others will reverse their prior negative stance. You do seem to make a difference.

Tonight: Whatever makes you smile.

This Week: Take a penetrating look at your finances. What do you see? Make a much-needed adjustment.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

*** Knowing when to back out could be more important to your well-being than you realize. Realize when you have had enough, and get out of that situation gracefully. Ultimately, you will be happier. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

This Week: You grin, and others respond. You, however, are more likely to be overly serious. Thus, others will be too.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** Remain sensitive to a friend. Easy does it. Stay on top of your game, knowing your limits and desires. Many people surround you and want to let go and just enjoy. Encourage others to do just that. The end results will be excellent. Tonight: Where people are.

This Week: Know when you cannot win, and cut your losses. Thursday, you come into your own.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** Others often look to you to take the lead, which you like to do. Control might be a prime issue, but know when to give it up. You could really enjoy a loved one far more than in the past. A friend seems out of kilter. Tonight: Start thinking about tomorrow.

This Week: Keep your goals in your mind's eye, and you will begin to see a change.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** Often, opportunity strikes in strange ways, causing odd reactions at best. You might want to rethink a personal matter more completely or talk to a trusted friend if you are uncomfortable. Be willing to let go of the tried-and-true. Tonight: New vistas appear.

This Week: Much will be demanded from you. Count on making the grade.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** Teamwork often defines success as we know it. As a result, be willing to try something different or walk in a new direction with a close friend or loved one. The end results easily could be dynamic. Tonight: Continue the theme of togetherness.

This Week: Be willing to take extra steps to get where you want to be, which might mean incorporating new ideas.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** Others present you with a myriad of opportunities, though making the right decision could be quite complicated. Realize what you want from key people. If you're confused, be willing to say so. Buy yourself some time. Tonight: Someone expresses the full dynamics of his or her personality.

This Week: Work with a partner or friend directly. Be willing to walk the opposite side of an issue.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

*** Make time for a hike or a walk. Sometimes getting some fresh air does more for your mind than other activities. Frustration and/or suppressed anger could become a problem. Look toward healthy self-expression. Tonight: Start thinking "work."

This Week: Others run the show. You are simply along for the ride. Keep that attitude, and you'll get results.

BORN TODAY

Actor Alan Hale Jr. (1918), actress Lynn Redgrave (1943), actor Freddie Prinze Jr. (1976)

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

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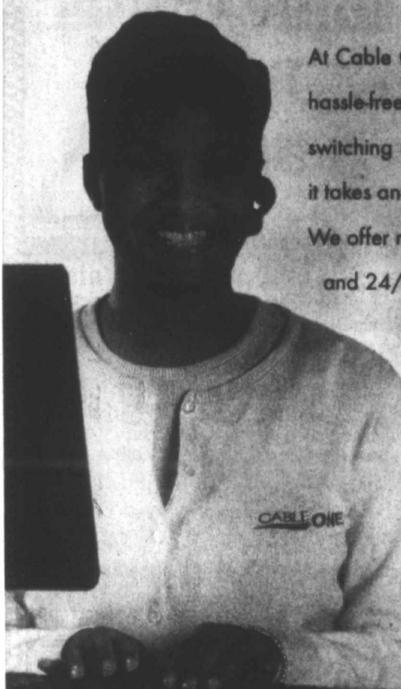
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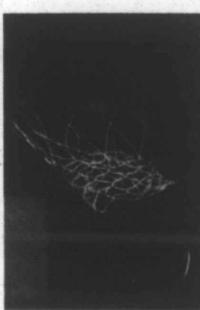
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Can Web site offer homeless man hope?

HOUSTON (AP) — A few weeks ago, Tim Edwards was just another ragged guy begging for spare change at a busy Houston underpass, scrounging for food and chained to his alcohol addiction. Most drivers whizzed by without a glance. No one asked his name or knew his story.

Now, thanks to an Internet marketing campaign, unlikely allies, and a Web site with the catchy and controversial name of www.pimpthisbum.com, Edwards has become the human face of homelessness to thousands of online viewers. On regular Webcasts, dozens of people log on to ask questions about Edwards' life and his slow fall from officer manager with a home, a car, and a future to an outcast short of hope and with little prospects of help.

But the Web site does more than offer a reality-TV glimpse of life on the streets. It gives viewers a chance to donate money, services and goods to help Edwards yank himself out of homelessness.

And it does so with an edgy tone that has drawn criticism as well as converts.

"We wanted to insult people's sensitivities so that they would go to the site and see Tim, and people seem to have fallen in love with him. He's funny and doesn't blame the world for his situation," said Kevin Dolan, 55, a marketing specialist from the Houston suburb of Katy who started the site with his 24-year-old son, Sean.

The Dolans originally began to test a viral advertising campaign, and spark some publicity for the Dolans' new Internet marketing business. They had planned to promote a mom-and-pop business, until Sean suggested using the site to do some good.

If the site had been called "Help the Homeless," many of those now clicking on it might just have passed it by, notes Sean.

Instead, they are getting to know Edwards and getting past the stereotype of an anonymous group labeled "The Homeless."

"I'm the world's first online bum," jokes Edwards, a lanky, bearded 37-year-old who talks about life on the streets with a mix of dark humor and unvarnished honesty. "The whole idea of this project is to get people off the street. I'm the pioneer, but I've got friends behind me. If I don't get this right, it ain't gonna work for them."

The Web site's homepage features videos of Edwards and a photograph showing him with a cardboard sign that reads: www.pimpthisbum.com. Under a "Donate" button are icons for Mastercard, Visa and American Express, where viewers can charge their donations.

A donors list shows the names of people who have sent in money ranging from 45 cents to \$101. Others have dropped by Edwards' regular panhandling spot to drop off food and fast-food gift cards — or just to shout hello.

Next week, Edwards is

scheduled to enter an alcohol detox program at the Seattle-based Sunray Treatment and Recovery, which is providing the \$13,800 35-day program free of charge. There are plans to air Webcasts as Edwards goes through the program — and judging from online comments, many people will be monitoring his progress.

On a recent Webcast, Edwards was peppered with questions and words of support from his cyberfans.

Yet, some homeless advocates say the site exploits Edwards and does little to address the underlying issues of homelessness. Even the name makes Anthony Love, president of the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, bristle.

"He is a person. His name is Tim. And to pimp anyone is not something I would endorse," he said.

The Web site also stirred up an Internet debate over the merits of the Dolans' approach. One blogger named KatDish noted: "Your impassioned pleas for helping Tim get off the street don't hold much weight when you ask him to hold up a sign that says 'Pimp this Bum' and let people know he needs a sharpie and a cheeseburger."

One of her readers named Jody added: "I'm sure they are excited to find their viral marketing working well. I just wish they cared about the outcome of Tim and others who are homeless more than they cared about 'suc-

cessful business.'" But Edwards says he roared with laughter when Sean Dolan nervously approached him with the idea of the website and tossed out the proposed name.

On that night, in early February, Edwards and the fellow homeless men who have become a tight-knit family were clustered beneath an underpass, "getting drunk like we always do." At first, he wasn't sure if the Dolans were a threat or just do-gooders bringing some food.

Now, Edwards says, he believes they were an answer to a prayer born out of his own desperation. He had been mired in homelessness since Aug. 19, 2004 (he remembers the exact date), unable to shake loose severe alcoholism.

He had gone from that first night of sheer terror to someone skilled in the art of survival on the street. Keep to your own territory. Beg enough for the bare necessities: food, cigarettes, drink, then get off the corner. Learn who to trust and who to stay away from.

He had seen close friends die from years of addiction, from infections that raged out of control, from simple, intractable hopelessness. And he had come to the edge many times himself, once yearning to lay down and die.

Then, recalled Edwards, as he and the Dolans stood in the parking lot of a Waffle House restaurant, "I asked God to make it rain and here come these guys. And I thought this is just crazy enough to work."

Edwards says he has tried other programs aimed at getting the homeless off the streets, but none have worked for him.

WEEKLY MENUS

Pampa Meals on Wheels

Monday
Chicken pot pie
Pickled beets
corn
Pudding

Tuesday
Sausage patties/eggs
Hash brown/gravy
Pears

Wednesday
Lasagne
Green beans
Garlic bread
Salad Pineapple

Thursday
Sloppy Joe
Tator tots
Pork beans
Applesauce

Friday
Catfish
Pinto beans
Cole Slaw
Apricots

Briarwood Kids Cafe

March 12th

Fried Chicken
Mashed potatoes
Corn
Dessert
Drink
Lamar Kid's Cafe

March 10th
Spaghetti
SALad
Green Beans
Dessert
Drink

Pampa ISD

Monday
Popcorn chicken or pizza
Whipped potatoes
Corn
Mixed fruit
Hot roll
Breakfast
French toast sticks

Tuesday
Breakfast for lunch or

chicken nuggets
Potato rounds
Rosie Applesauce
Biscuit
Breakfast
Blueberry pancake n'
sausage on a stick

Wednesday
Raviolo or chef salad
Green beans
Cheese potatoes
Fresh fruit
Garlic toast
Breakfast
Breakfast pizza

Thursday
Steak fingers or
cheese nachos
Western beans
Broccoli florets
Peaches
Pudding
Breakfast
Biscuit
Sausage Patty

Friday
Grilled cheese sandwich or hot dog
french fries
Vegetarian Beans
Pineapple tidbits
Breakfast
Cereal
Toast

Wilson Kid's Cafe

March 9

Chili dogs
Pork N' Beans
Chips
Dessert
Drink

DAILY HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, March 9, 2009:
Often this year, you are focused on your daily responsibilities, whereas other periods, you open up to new possibilities and people. Networking impacts nearly all facets of your life. You will be as lucky as a cat with nine lives! Let go of what no longer works. If you are single, many people could appear in your life. You seem to have a carousel of suitors. Your choice could make a big difference. If you are attached, let your significant other play a greater role in your life. VIRGO adores you, but also can be difficult.

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)
**** You might wake up with a creative bent, but by midday, it is work and more work, or errands and more errands. Whatever you decide to do is quickly eliminated. With someone gearing up for a disagreement, distance yourself politely. Who needs a showdown? Tonight: Take it easy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
**** Where others are stumped, you continue to be a problem-solver. Don't question what is going on; rather, enjoy every single moment. Work doesn't always have to be so serious, either! Go with the moment. Tonight: Relax to great music or chat with a friend at a distance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
*** If you can, take today off or work from home. Contentment seems to surround the Twin wherever he or she goes. Lighten up, knowing your limits. Don't take on any additional work for now. A

partner loses a new perspective on an old situation. Tonight: Live it up!
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
**** Where others might retreat, you keep questioning and trying to smooth ruffled feathers, perhaps even your own. Detach a bit, and you'll come to a point of understanding and gain a perspective. Anything can happen. Tonight: With a favorite person.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
*** You wake up renewed and full of energy. As a result, you attempt to clear out an enormous amount of work. Disagreements pop up out of the blue. You could become frustrated, but the smart decision is to think and detach. Tonight: Gather your bills first.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
**** You don't always understand the pros and cons of a situation. You see someone in a different light than many, which doesn't cause any difficulty. The two of you relate on this level. Relax and maintain an even pace. A walk revitalizes your energy level. Tonight: As you wish.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
**** Your ability to understand others could be more important than you realize. Be willing to back off a problematic situation this afternoon. Let someone else make the first gesture. Head home as soon as you can. Tonight: Morph your mood.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
**** In a difficult situation where you might want to have more of an impact, you can — once you decide what works for you but also the common good. Understanding reaches a new plateau if you don't judge someone too harshly. Tonight: Just for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
**** You might want to question

more of what is needed with a key associate in your life. This person demands a lot of time and often drops responsibility on you. Knowing when to say enough and then choosing the right words could make all the difference. Tonight: A must appearance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
**** Where others get locked in negativity, you have an opportunity to see way past the obvious. You laugh, and someone else smiles. Your impact is far greater than you realize. Renew your ideas in light of information that comes forward. Tonight: Beam in what you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
**** How you deal with a partner could impact the long-term. You'll also gain understanding if you choose not to react. Fatigue marks your actions as the day becomes older. Allow someone else to take the lead. Tonight: Togetherness works.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
**** Defer to others and make that difference by choosing not to handle problems. You actually empower others much more than you think possible by "not doing." Someone is quite contentious at this point. Tonight: Sort through the possibilities, then choose.

BORN TODAY
Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin (1934), chess player Bobby Fischer (1943), guitarist Robin Trower (1945)

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

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Report: Guard commanders removed

HOUSTON (AP) — Three Texas military commanders are being removed from top positions following allegations that they received paychecks from the state and federal government for work done at the same time, according to a report by KHOU-TV in Houston.

Gov. Rick Perry is removing Gens. John Furlow, commander of the Texas Army National Guard, and Allen Dehnert, who commands the Texas Air National Guard, the television station reported Thursday. The top commander of the Texas Military Forces, Adjutant Gen. Charles Rodriguez, is also being replaced.

Perry's spokeswoman, Allison Castle, said the removals were not related to the double-dipping of pay.

"The governor routinely appoints new leadership," Castle said, noting that Rodriguez's four-year term expired in February.

However, all three came under scrutiny because they allegedly collected paychecks from the state while simultaneously performing work for the federal government, the television station reported. Rodriguez, Furlow and Dehnert did not go on "state leave" when they performed work for the federal government but instead took "emergency leave," allowing them to continue to be paid by Texas.

Chief Gonda Moncada of the Texas Air National Guard said Friday that the allegations stem from a busy period late last summer in which the officers were assisting with multiple hurricanes that threatened the state. She said in such a situation Guard members are most concerned with helping during the disaster and that administrative paperwork is secondary.

"Nobody would have done something like this purposely," she said.

Perry announced last week he would replace Rodriguez, currently the top mili-

tary officer in Texas. The adjutant general oversees the Texas military's three branches — the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard and the Texas State Guard.

Rodriguez, who also worked sometimes for the federal government, is to be replaced by Gen. Jose Mayorga, pending confirmation by the Texas Senate.

Rodriguez told KHOU he was in the process of repaying \$53,000 and had paid nearly a third of it.

"I have every obligation to pay off the rest," he said.

Dehnert will be replaced by Col. John F. Nichols, who will receive a promotion to brigadier general, and Furlow will be replaced by Brig. Gen. Joyce Stevens.

Castle confirmed that Furlow and Dehnert were double-paid but the amount they owed has not been disclosed. In a Jan. 14 memo, the governor's chief of staff, Jay Kimbrough, wrote to Rodriguez telling him to establish a new policy that prohibits the practice for all state employees.

Castle referred questions about how much money Dehnert and Furlow owe the state to the Guard. The Guard's internal audit director, Mike Garner, said he provided Rodriguez in October 2008 with estimates of how much is owed. The Guard would not release the amounts noted in those estimates, KHOU reported.

Meanwhile, a group of senior women officers in the Texas Air National Guard has filed a joint congressional complaint alleging sexual discrimination against the wing commander at Ellington Field. Their allegations were substantiated by Brig. Gen. Thomas Haynes, an independent investigator appointed from outside Texas to look into the matter, KHOU reported.

Castle said some of the findings remain under review.

Police find disabled man filthy, starving

CHANDLER, Texas (AP) — An East Texas husband and wife were arrested on charges of injury to the disabled Friday after authorities found an emaciated mentally disabled man locked in a filthy room of their home.

Roy and Lea Johnson were taken into custody at a Tyler fast-food restaurant around noon, officials said.

Police attempting to serve a warrant on an unrelated matter at the couple's home Wednesday discovered a man clad in an adult diaper hanging to his knees locked in a room covered with filth.

"The place was sickening and the sight of that man reminded me of a wild animal," Henderson County Sheriff's Detective Wick Gabbard said.

Upon being released from the room, the man ran to the kitchen and tried to eat frozen bacon and a TV dinner through the box, Gabbard said.

Family members told officials they kept him confined so "he wouldn't steal their food."

The man was identified as Lea Johnson's brother, Kerry Cotten, and estimated to be in his mid-40s. It was difficult to get details from Cotten because he has trouble speaking, Lt. Botie Hillhouse of the Henderson County Sheriff's Department said.

Cotten was taken to a hospital and later placed in the custody of Adult Protective Services. An APS spokeswoman confirmed that the agency is conducting an investigation but declined to provide details, citing privacy concerns.

Chandler police were looking for Roy Johnson, who was wanted on felony theft charges, when they discovered Cotten.

Johnson wasn't home, but officers noticed an odor coming from inside the house when a teenage girl answered the front door.

"When they got inside, they found this door locked from the outside and they asked what was in there," Gabbard said. "The girl told them it was just her retarded uncle and they might not want to go in there."

The teenager, Alyssia Johnson, was arrested on a charge of injury to an elderly person. She remained in the Henderson County Jail Friday with a bond set at \$100,000.

Her 19-year-old boyfriend, Curtis Durham, who lives next door, was arrested on a charge of failure to report a felony, authorities said. He was released Thursday on a \$25,000 bond.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Durham said he was arrested because he was in the wrong place at the wrong time, visiting with his girlfriend when the police came. He also said he has previously reported the squalid conditions, saying he placed a call to the Henderson County Sheriff's Department about a year ago. Other neighbors have reported the conditions to authorities as well, he said.

"Alyssia has, too," Durham said. "We did what we thought we had to do."

Hillhouse said the sheriff's department has no record of calls from Durham or others to report problems at the home.

Injury to the disabled is a first-degree felony that carries a prison term of five to 99 years.

Chandler is about 80 miles east of Dallas.

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By JAMES PRICHARD

Associated Press Writer ALBION, Mich. (AP) — Jerry Sacharski crafted his first batting tee from metal piping, some pieces of rubber and part of a garden hose.

Half a century later he still was coaching T-ball, a game that introduced baseball to millions of kids from backyards to the White House lawn.

Many in this college town of 9,100 give Sacharski the nod for being the architect of T-ball, though that kind of recognition made the longtime teacher uncomfortable. He figured that somebody, somewhere, had previously put a baseball on a tee.

What Sacharski is widely credited with doing is developing a set of rules for the game that allowed young children to play before they'd mastered two fundamental but difficult skills: throwing a pitch and hitting one.

The benefits served them well, from Little League onto the majors.

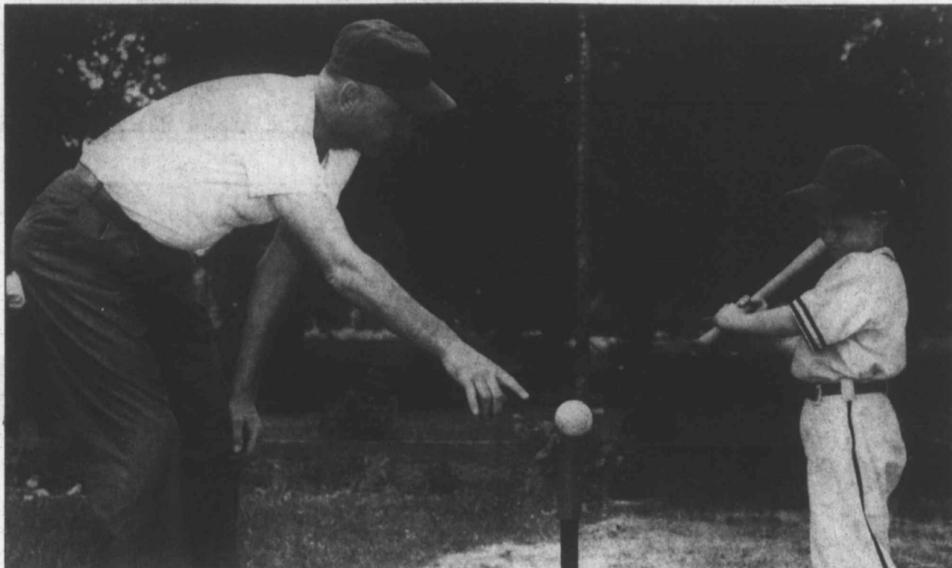
"I loved it. I have some great memories," said Texas star Michael Young, a career .300 hitter.

In 1954, Sacharski took a part-time job as director of the city of Albion's Recreation Department. To get more youngsters interested in baseball, he figured that having them hit from his jury-rigged tees placed atop home plate would make things easier. Not only could the batter hit, other players could learn to field and throw.

Five teams of about a dozen players each took part in the first season of Albion's "Pee Wee Baseball League," as Sacharski called it. The game debuted June 25, 1956, at Victory Park, and T-ball is still played there.

Within a year or two, organized T-ball leagues were popping up everywhere, says his son, who was among those playing that first season.

T-ball pioneer made game a huge hit over 50 years



In a photo provided by Albion, Mich. historian Frank Passic, Jerry Sacharski, left, gives instructions to 5-year-old Craig LeClair in 1958. The Michigan man known for helping to popularize T-ball as an organized youth sport died Friday, Feb. 27, 2009, at 93 in his home in Albion. The game's exact origin is unclear but behind Sacharski, Albion in 1956 became one of the nation's first communities in which T-ball was played as an organized sport.

"He was very sensitive about being credited with actually inventing the game," says Will Sacharski, now 60 and the youngest of three. "He didn't necessarily want to take credit for that."

His father died Feb. 27 at his home in Albion, about 85 miles west of Detroit. Jerry Sacharski was 93 and had spent the past few years in failing health.

After his funeral here this week, some of the original Albion T-ballers, now in their 60s, reminisced about Sacharski and how the game helped shape who they are today.

Tommy Clark says playing in that first league increased his interest in baseball and boosted his confidence as a player.

"It was one of the best

times of my life," says Clark, now 62 and a retired inspector for General Motors Corp.

Clark, who lives in Albion and became lifelong friends with Sacharski, played for the Davy Crocketts. The team that won the title that year was the Porky Pigs, whose players included Dave Bieskie, who lives across the street from Victory Park.

Bieskie says he enjoyed T-ball but his baseball career ended early, at age 13, when he got a job delivering newspapers.

T-ball has come a long way since the 1950s.

These days, about 2.2 million children ages 4-7 participate annually in T-ball leagues around this country, according to the

T-Ball USA Association Web site. Former President George W. Bush, once a part-owner of the Texas Rangers, held T-ball games on the South Lawn of the White House each year he was in office.

Glenn Hoffman, a former big leaguer who is now the third base coach for the San Diego Padres, said two of his five children played T-ball. "To be able to play in an organized game, a structured game, at that age was a great atmosphere for my kids growing up, before it led them into Little League for the 8-year-olds," he said.

New York Yankees great and now Los Angeles Dodgers hitting coach Don Mattingly has long maintained that players of all

ages can improve their slugging by practicing with a batting tee. All three of his sons have played T-ball.

"Our neighborhood, they had leagues for T-ball to get them started, then they progressed on," he said. "It's funny, because you get kids that are in Little League, they don't want to use the tee anymore because they look at it like this little starting thing that little kids use."

"Then I try to explain to them that guys like Manny (Ramirez) and other guys are all using that. Why wouldn't they want to use it?"

Born Feb. 6, 1916, in West Allis, Wis., Sacharski was a standout basketball player at what was then known as Oshkosh State

Teachers College and is now the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

He served in the Army during World War II, reaching the rank of second lieutenant, and played on an armed forces basketball team with several college stars.

From 1951 until he retired in 1980, Sacharski taught at Albion Public Schools, a range of subjects including history, social studies, English and Latin. He also coached high school baseball for many years.

When Rodney Ferguson took over as Albion's recreation director in 2002, many years after Sacharski had left the job, he discovered that the T-ball league needed to be reorganized and revitalized. Ferguson sought help from Sacharski, who dusted off copies of his rules and field diagrams and showed him T-ball film that he shot in the 1950s.

To Ferguson's surprise, Sacharski also returned to the diamond that year as a T-ball coach, which he continued to do through 2006, when he was 90.

"The big thing with Jerry Sacharski was he invested his time in you to help you be a better young person," Ferguson said.

Will Sacharski said his father seemed to have an unlimited amount of patience with children and a remarkable memory, even late in life, for their achievements long ago. He enjoyed nothing more than talking with his former players, decades later, and reminding them of their outstanding plays.

61-year-old Doug Fausz, is another original Albion T-baller.

"The man's 90 years old and he said to me, 'Where were you at 50 years ago today?' and I looked at him and said, 'No clue.' He told me where I was at, what I was doing, I mean, he went through the whole thing."

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14 Ridiculous suburb

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5 Witch trial town

6 Unified

7 Harmonize

8 Messy room

9 Gasp, perhaps

11 Road markers

15 Hole in the head

19 Revered one

21 Airport area

24 Sharp come-backs

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26 "Lord Jim" author

27 Cunning

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37 Suit material

39 Horse-shoe shape

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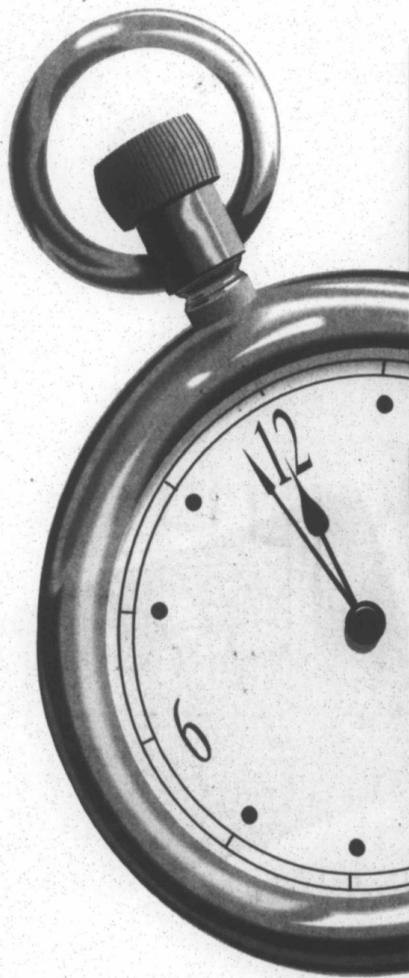
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Daylight saving time is a way of getting more light out of the day by advancing clocks by one hour during the spring and summer months. One of the original goals of daylight saving time, which was controversial upon its introduction in the early 20th century, was to save energy. This would be achieved mainly by reducing the use of incandescent lighting by adding more sunlight to the end of the day, when most people are home and awake, and taking some away from early morning hours, when people are typically asleep. However, daylight saving time remains controversial even to this day. Research has indicated that retailers benefit from daylight saving time, and recreational activities, such as sporting leagues for children, also benefit from the added sunlight at the end of the day. However, research has also indicated that the farming industry has been adversely affected by daylight saving time, because farmers need extra sunlight in the morning. While farmers may have a point when it comes to daylight saving time not being good for business, they have some considerable foes when it comes to proponents of the time change. Perhaps none are more notable than United States founding father Benjamin Franklin, who first suggested something similar to the current daylight saving time way back in 1784. Over the years, daylight saving time has changed depending on a host of factors, including state of the economy and energy consumption. In 2007, the date for daylight saving time was changed once again. This year, daylight saving time starts on the second Sunday in March and ends on the first Sunday in November.

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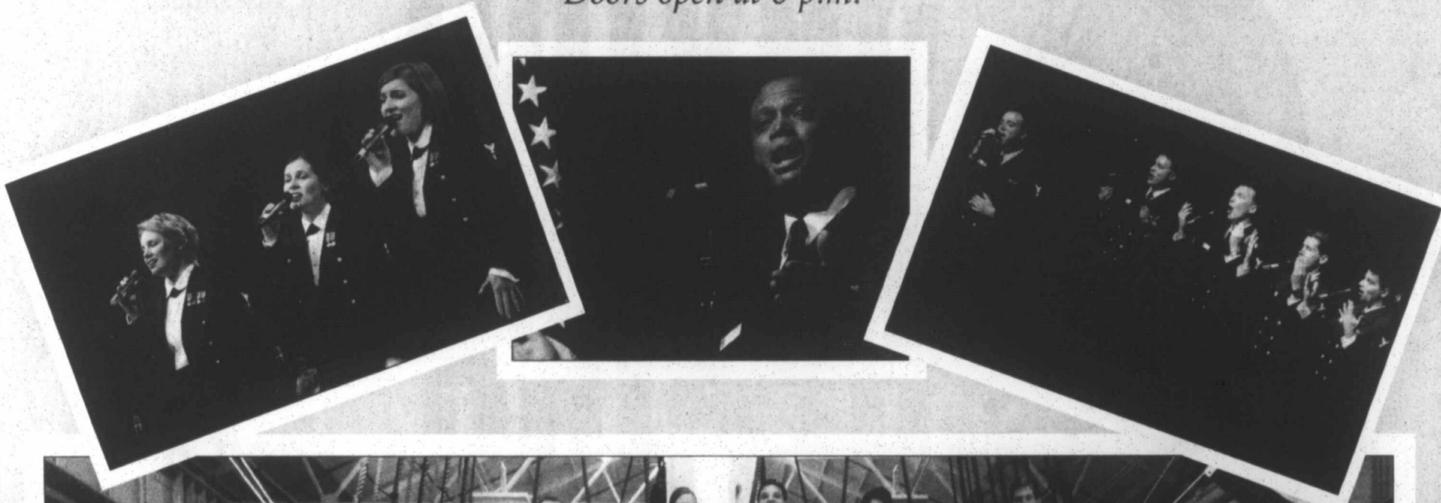
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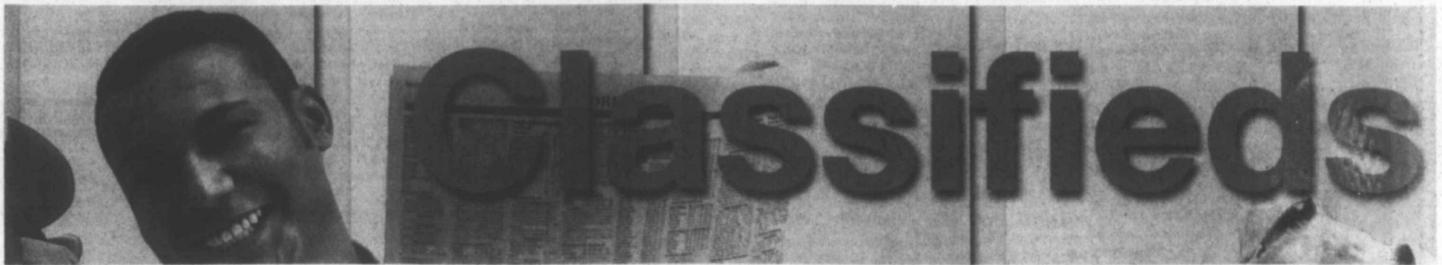
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Will you please explain to your readers that doctors do not practice medicine 24 hours a day? Each time we reveal to people that my husband is a psychiatrist, we have to put up with unfunny jokes about how he's going to analyze them, or insinuations that all he does is sit on a couch and ask, "And how do you feel about that?" How should we respond to these misconceptions? -- NOT LAUGHING IN IOWA

DEAR NOT LAUGHING: The attempts at humor are not a reflection on your husband or the psychiatric profession. They are a clue that the person may be afraid that if he or she opens up and talks with him, he may realize that he or she is "crazy."

Your question takes me back to my childhood, when our family lived in the Midwest and the first psychiatrist moved to the city and opened a practice. For months, no one would talk to the poor man for exactly that reason.

When people "joke" that your husband is going to analyze them, he should smile and say, "Don't worry -- I'm off duty." (If I were in his

shoes, I'd be tempted to ask, "... and how do you feel about that?")

DEAR ABBY: I am being marred in the fall. Ever since I was 11, I have had a wonderful beagle. She sleeps in my bed and I take her everywhere. She cuddles with me and has been there for me during some of the most terrible times in my life. I treat her like she's my baby.

Abby, I want my dog to attend my wedding. One of my best friends -- says a dog shouldn't be allowed to attend the wedding. I say she should be. Who is right? -- BRIDE-TO-BE IN ALABAMA

DEAR BRIDE-TO-BE: I have heard of dogs not only attending weddings, but also being part of the bridal party. However, whether your four-legged companion will be welcomed at your wedding may depend on how the person who officiates feels about it -- and that is the person you should consult.

DEAR ABBY: I am at a loss as to how to deal with family members who constantly text others while supposedly vis-

iting us or when we're having dinner out together.

I personally find it rude, but I am reluctant to ask them to put it away. Do you have a snappy comment for me? -- NON-TEXTER IN A TEXTING WORLD

DEAR NON-TEXTER: What your family members are doing is extremely rude. The message it sends to you is that your company is boring and the person would rather be elsewhere. (Indeed, the person who is texting IS elsewhere.) Tell your family members that when they visit, you would prefer they keep their electronic devices off until they leave. (If this happened while I was hosting a meal, I think I'd ask for separate check and tell them why.)

DEAR READERS: For those of you who live where Daylight Saving Time is observed, I offer a gentle reminder. Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed tonight because Daylight Saving Time begins at 2 a.m. tomorrow.

Perfect Family Home

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- 3 Bedroom
- 2 Bath
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- 2 Large Living Areas
- Dining Room
- Finished Basement with Large Storage Room
- 2 Car Garage with Large Boat Storage Area with Separate Entry
- Oversized Backyard with Storage Building
- Large Front Yard



Call your favorite Pampa Real Estate Agent

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

7	8	3	9	6	2	1	5	4
4	2	9	7	1	5	3	8	6
1	6	5	8	4	3	7	9	2
8	9	2	3	7	6	5	4	1
5	7	1	4	9	8	2	6	3
3	4	6	2	5	1	8	7	9
2	1	7	6	8	9	4	3	5
6	5	8	1	3	4	9	2	7
9	3	4	5	2	7	6	1	8

5								
	7			6	1			3
3				2				8
				6		4		
				8	9	1	3	
					7			
5								9
		8		1	9			7
	4			7				2

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

SELL IT FAST!
IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

7 Auctions 7 Auctions 7 Auctions

LARGE ESTATES AUCTION

ANTIQUE - FURNITURE
 ANTIQUE FIREARMS - ANTIQUE COINS

SATURDAY MARCH 14TH - 10 A.M. SHARP!

★ ★ ★ PAMPA, TEXAS ★ ★ ★

M.K. BROWN CIVIC CENTER - 1100 W. CORONADO DRIVE

This Great Auction will consist of some of the finest American Antiques, Highly Curved Furniture, Very Unique American Antique Oak, Victorian Pieces, Glassware and other Fantastic Items we have seen! Make this a Priority Stop to visit this Auction. Doors open at 8 am Day of Sale for Viewing. Auction will begin at 10 am Sharp! Come early for a good view & bring your Truck. Everything must be moved day of sale.

Only A Partial Listing: A Very Rare Antique "Bonzinger" Library Table with Bronze Feet and Barley Twist Legs - The Best We Have Seen! A Very Rare Antique Oak "Reginald" Gun-Op Metal Box Music Box with Several Discs - **Must Hear To Believe!** A Very Rare Antique "Harold Organ" with Matching Case - **Must See To Believe!** A Rare Antique "Jennings - Indian Chief" 25¢ Slot Machine in Original Working Condition. A Very Rare Authentic Antique Heavy Carved High Back Bed - **Must See!** An Antique "Globe Wrennicks" Lawyers Stacking Bookcase. A Rare Antique Carved Oak "Cougler's Bed" with Bookcase Top. A Rare Antique "Blaine" Double Dial Calendar Clock. A Beautiful Antique German Grandfather Clock with Beautiful Chimes. A Very Rare Antique Oak Deep Well Ladies Vanity Dresser with Bevel Mirror. A Rare Authentic Antique "Victor II" Tiger Oak Horn Photograph - **Never Seen One - Works Great!** A Very Rare Antique "Coco-Cole" Advertising Clock. An Antique German Cabinet with Curved Glass. A Rare Antique Oak Child's Photograph - **Must See!** A Beautiful Antique Curved Chino Cabinet. A Rare Antique "McClain" U.S. Cavalry Saddle. Rare Antique Leather Western "U.S. Saddle Bags". Fantastic Framed Western Prints by "C.M. Russell" and "Frederic Remington". Unique Western Oil Lamps. An Outstanding Western Bronze Statue Collection including the Rare Size "Buffalo Hunt" by C.M. Russell. **6th West Original Game From Estate, Such As - A Very Rare Authentic Antique 1855 "Calk Road" Revolver in Great Original Working Condition - Never Seen One Before!** A Very Rare Authentic Antique "Burgess" Lever Action Rifle in Great Original Working Condition - **Very Few Made - Never Seen One!** A Rare Authentic Antique "Winchester" 1886 Saddle Ring Carbine in Great Original Working Condition - **Never Seen One Before!** A Rare Authentic Antique "Winchester" 1887 Lever Action Shotgun in Great Original Working Condition. And Several Other Antique Guns! **Fantastic Coin Collection - Very Rare 1892 CC \$18 Gold Coin (Carson City Mint Mark), 1918-D \$20 Gold Coin, 1914 \$10 Indian Gold Coin, 1890 \$5 Gold Coin, 1913 \$2 1/2 Indian Gold Coin, 1853 \$1 Gold Coin, Complete 24 Pc. Peace Dollar Collection, Over 200 Antique Silver Dollars, 1890-CC Silver Dollar, Very Rare 1937-D 3 Lugged Buffalo Nickel, 1831 Capped Bust Half Dollar, 1894 Draped Bust Half Cent, 1835 Capped Bust Half Dime, 1858 Flying Eagle Cent, 1853 Half Cent, 1853 Three Cent, 1873 Half Dime, 1862 Draped Bust Large Cent, 1829 Bear Dime and Many More! Several Large Outstanding Diamond Rings! A Fantastic Leaded Glass Floor Lamp - **Must See!** Beautiful Tea Set with Matching Tray, Dresden Cople Figure, Cast Iron Benks, Cut Crystal Bookish Lamp, Memory Cadden Jar, Beautiful Leaded Glass Lamps. **And Many More Must See Items!****

Bring Cash or Check with Proper I.D. Dealer's Must have copy of Sales Tax Permit or Sales Tax will be added. No Exceptions. Announcements Made Day of Sale Supercede All Other Advertisements.

Make This Auction a Priority! - 405-281-3402

No Buyer's Premium!

Auctioneer - Michael Mearns - Tx. Lic. # 12703

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CLASSIFIEDS

1 Public Notice

being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o:
Vanessa G. Buzzard
Attorney at Law
208 N. Russell St.
Pampa, TX 79065
DATED the 4th day of March, 2009.
Vanessa G. Buzzard
Attorney for
Don Dorsey
and Glenda Martin
State Bar No.:
03547900
208 N. Russell St.
Pampa, TX 79065
Telephone:
(806)665-7281
Facsimile:
(806)669-0972
C-44 Mar. 8, 2009

NOTICE TO PROPOSERS
The Pampa Independent School District will receive sealed proposals in the Business Office at 321 W. Albert, Pampa, Texas 79065, until 2:00 p.m., Thursday, March 26, 2009 for Band Instruments. For specifications or additional information please call Betty Meadows, Purchasing Director at (806)669-4700. C-41 Mar. 6, 8, 2009

3 Personal
****Adopt**** A beautiful Christian Home filled with music, crafts, puppy outdoor fun lovingly waits for your baby.
Expenses Paid
Valee 1-800-989-6766

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

10 Lost/Found
FOUND Pit puppy. Call & identify 669-6223

13 Bus. Opp.
GREAT Investment opp. Pampa motel. Retired couple or individual. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

14a Air Cond.
BROWNING Heating & Air Cond., 665-1212. Free esti. on new equip. We service all brands!

14d Carpentry
Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

CUSTOM Building & Remodeling Replacement windows. Ref. avail. Shawn Deaver Const. 662-2977 or 665-0354.

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

14e Carpet Serv.
NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE
Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.

14h Gen. Serv.
HOUSE Cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

CERAMIC tile work. Remodeling floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free esti. Call 665-3453 leave message. Jesus Barraza.

JH Concrete Work. Stamps, driveways, addition, fences, patios. Free Est 806-382-5408.

1 Public Notice
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Catherine Z. Dorsey, Deceased, were issued on February 19, 2009, in Cause No. 9593, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: Don C. Dorsey and Glenda Martin.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently

14h Gen. Serv.

CONCRETE Work, Ceramic tile, Dry walling, Painting, Clean yards, Carpentry, Roofing. 806-662-3712
Juan Rodriguez.

KITCHENS, Baths, Painting & Roofing. Quality work, Cheap prices. 665-4863.

HANDYMAN from yard work to siding, trim, and paint holes in fence or walls. Call Tyson, I do it all. 898-0571.

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LAWN scalping to full yard restoration. Rototilling for flowerbeds, gardens, tree trim. No Job To Big or Small. 664-3045 or 440-4756.

RICO'S Lawn Care & Handyman Service Repair, Improve, Assemble & Build just about anything. Tree & Shrub Pruning. 806-662-1016.

14s Plumbing/Heat
JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115.

19 Situations
CHILD CARE in my home. Day or night. Reasonable rates! Call 669-3718.

WILL DO Housecleaning References Available 669-4223

I offer residential & office cleaning services at affordable rates. Give me a call (505)331-0192 or (806)669-1872. Esther Almanza.

21 Help Wanted
NOTICE: All ads that contain phone numbers or give reference to a number with an area code of 809 or a prefix of 011 are international toll numbers and you will be charged international long distance rates. For more information and assistance regarding the investigation of work at home opportunities and job lists, The Pampa News urges its readers to contact the Better Business Bureau of South Texas, 609 S. International Blvd., Weslaco, Tx. 78596, (210) 968-3678.

Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

TEXAS Rose Steak house is now hiring for Servers. Apply in person. No phone calls!

PAMPA ISD is now hiring a HVAC /Plumber. Interested applicants should apply in person, 400 N. Faulkner. NEED Weekend RN, Fri. & Sat., 10:30pm-7am. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle, 537-3194.

THE Department of Family and Protective Services is seeking qualified candidates for CPS Substitute Care Specialists, CPS Family Based Service Specialists, and CPS Investigator positions in Pampa, Borger and Brownfield. Monthly salary range is \$2516.83. Minimum Qualifications: Four-year degree from an accredited university. Please apply for job posting of your choice location on-line at <https://hhhsbs.hhs.state.tx.us/>. Please apply no later than March 13, 2009. SPRINT Nurses seeking RN's, LVN's and CNA's to work locally. For more information call 806-355-5660.

21 Help Wanted

NEED Maintenance Man. Must have tools & transportation. Apply at 800 N. Nelson.

IMMEDIATE Openings avail. for LVN's & RN's. 8 hr.-shift. Great pay! Come work with a great team. Apply at Senior Village, 3101 Main, Perryton; or call for an appl. to be mailed, 806-435-5403.

NEEDED Insurance Secretary. Full time. Resume needed. Please call 806-662-6104 or fax 806-665-0129.

NEED RN, full or part-time, 6am-6pm shift. Call Palo Duro Nursing Home, 226-5121.

NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR needed for McLean, Texas. Applicant must be a licensed Texas nursing home administrator. Salary is negotiable based on exp. Benefits include: 401K, health ins. allowance, generous paid time off plan. Please email resumes to:
aaronterrel@csnhc.com
or call 940-727-9370. Company website: www.creative-solutionsinhealthcare.com

NAES Corporation, a leading provider of third party Operations and Maintenance services to the Independent Power Industry, is currently recruiting for the following position at the Blackhawk Station in Borger, TX. Control Room Operator Under the general direction of the Shift Supervisor, the person holding this position operates a gas-fired facility in a safe, reliable, and efficient manner in full compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, policies and procedures.

Qualifications:
• High school degree or equivalent. Associate degree in a technical field desired.
• Experience as an Assistant Plant Operator or equivalent position in an operating or generating plant.
• Must successfully complete the CRO qualification card.
• Familiarity with simple cycle and combined cycle operation and maintenance desired.
NAES offers a competitive compensation / benefits package and promotional opportunities.
Qualified candidates please apply at www.naes.com and click on the Careers tab. Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer

MARKETING DIRECTOR needed to cover 3 company facilities in the panhandle.
Contact
McLean Care Center
Administrator,
Nita Massey
806-779-2469 or come by 605 W. 7th in McLean to apply

Certified Nurse Aides needed for McLean Care Center!
Apply at 605 W. 7th or call 806-779-2469 for more info!

CDL Driver needed, pulling Belly Dumps. Drug test required. Call 662-5005.

21 Help Wanted

NEED Class A CDL Drivers. Nights & weekends. Tank endorsements for work in Canadian, Wheeler & Higgins area. Must have transportation & phone. Call 806-323-9908. TCP&S, 310 Birch St. Canadian TX.

PERSON 18-30 yrs. to travel throughout USA and help with Outback Show. Good with children, neat & clean habits req. 806-669-1226.

The Panhandles #1 Crude Carrier Accepting Applications for Drivers Excellent Pay & Benefits Paid Training, Vacation & Holidays Local Driving, Referral Bonus, Medical/Dental/Vision/Life & 401K Class A CDL-X Required

Apply Today: Call Kipp Wilks at 1-800-737-9973 or 806-935-9182

NAES Corporation, a leading provider of third party Operations and Maintenance services to the Independent Power Industry, is currently recruiting for the following position at the Blackhawk Station in Borger, TX. Control Room Operator Under the general direction of the Shift Supervisor, the person holding this position operates a gas-fired facility in a safe, reliable, and efficient manner in full compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, policies and procedures.

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• Must successfully complete the CRO qualification card.
• Familiarity with simple cycle and combined cycle operation and maintenance desired.
NAES offers a competitive compensation / benefits package and promotional opportunities.
Qualified candidates please apply at www.naes.com and click on the Careers tab. Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer

21 Help Wanted

COLLINGSWORTH General Hospital is changing the face of healthcare in Wellington: new EMR and telemetry technology are only the beginning. New facilities are coming soon! Here you will discover the very best of you through genuine team collaboration and support. Currently, we are accepting applications for one full-time or part-time 7p-7a RN. RNs start \$25/hr + /exp RN night diff \$4/hr RN WE night shift diff \$1/hr Paid CEU Flexible scheduling Relocation expenses Paid health ins.

Contact Cary Thomas, RN Chief Nursing Officer (806)447-2521 Ext 340 1013 15th Wellington, TX 79095

THERAPIST TECHNICIAN I FIR / PAMPA \$8.43 per hour
Texas Panhandle MHMR is in need of applicants who have a high school diploma / GED. Must have a minimum of eighth grade reading-comprehension level as evidenced by score on the Adult Basic Learning Examination (ABLE) test and a valid Texas Drivers License and be insurable under the agency vehicle policy. Prefer experience working with individuals in therapeutic activities and would be interested in assisting persons with mental retardation in day program and residential settings. (3 positions available).

Shifts available:
All 40 hrs / week
8pm-8am Sat. & Sun. 4pm-12am Thurs. & Fri. 4pm-12am Mon.-Fri. 12am-8am Mon.-Fri. 8am-8pm Sat. & Sun. 12am-8am Mon. & Tues. Apply at Texas Panhandle MHMR 901 Wallace Amarillo, TX 79106 806-358-1681 Download application at: www.tpmhmr.org

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21 Help Wanted

ATTREBURY Grain LLC is looking for a Full-Time Operator for the Pampa location. Agriculture exp. is a plus. Applications can be picked up at the main office in White Deer.

JBS FIVE RIVERS CATTLE FEEDING
WE are GROWING at JBS Five Rivers Cattle Feeding! Full Time Management Positions Dalhart Texas Area Assistant Mill Manager(s) Benefits include paid time off, 401(k) Plan, Family Medical, RX, Dental, Vision, Life, Disability Insurance for under \$40 a week. Relocation Assistance is available for most positions.

Come GROW with us, email resume with salary requirements to careers@fiveriverscattle.com.

and write Assistant Mill Manager in the subject line. Drivers license and Pre-Employment Drug Screen Required. EOE M/F

48 Trees/Shrubs
M&R Tree & Shrub Complete Serv., Free Est. 10% Senior disc. 273-2370, 433-4937.

50 Building Suppl.
White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

60 Household
COOKSTOVES, bedroom furn., freezers & complete home furnishings. 662-7557.

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

CURED FIREWOOD FOR SALE 806-665-8014 806-663-3124

SCALPING & BASIC LAWN CARE. CALL 662-0198

69 Misc.

FURNI., cookware, cast iron, fishing, camping, much more! Red Barn, 1420 S. Barnes. Will buy Estates. Sat. 10-5. 665-2767.

NINTENDO DS Lite, New, 2 games, all accessories, \$100. 665-6781, 665-2999.

69a Garage Sales
GARAGE SALE 1140 TERRACE SUN. NOON-4PM.

70 Musical
SANDERSON Stringed Instruments. Custom Guitars & Repairs. 323-3277.

80 Pets & Suppl.
FREE Puppies 663-9337

SHELTYE Puppies for sale. Now 5 wks. old. Will be able to leave mom at 7-8 wks. of age. Shots will be started. 1st deworming will be done. 3 males and 1 female avail. Mom & dad avail. for viewing. Call 806-440-1551.

Let us show you this 4 bedroom, 1 bath. Huge living room. Has double woodburning fireplace that opens into the master bedroom. Great kitchen cabinets. Ceiling fans in all bedrooms and living room. Peaceful setting. You will enjoy the sunrise each morning. Call for additional details. 8221

Need 5 Bedrooms?
Let us show you this one. 2 full baths plus 2 3/4 baths. Huge formal living room. Kitchen-dinette combined. Large isolated master bedroom and bath. Sunroom or hobby room. 2 car garage. Needs a family to enjoy all of the amenities. Owner has reduced the price. Call Irvine for an appointment. 8162

Brand New
Darling 3 bedroom, 2 baths. Granite counter tops in kitchen and baths. WB fireplace. New fence. 2 car garage. You can choose your carpet. Must see. Call our office for additional details. OE

Owner Says Make an Offer
3 bedroom brick 1 3/4 baths. Large formal living room. Galley kitchen and breakfast combined. Nice size utility room. Large tiled entry. Basement. Very desirable neighborhood. Lots of curb appeal. 8108

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4 bedroom two story. 1 1/2 baths. Large open and airy living, dining, den, and kitchen. WB fireplace. Downstairs master bedroom has great closets and bath has been recently updated. Some plantation shutters. Double car garage. Nearly new storage building. Sprinkler system, front and back yards. Too many amenities to mention. Call Irvine for an appointment. 8220

Bobbie Nisbet BKR. 662-8118
Irvine Riphahn GRI 665-4534
Chris Moore GRI 665-8172
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PHOTO: MARY BRADY

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ENOGEX is engaged in natural gas gathering, processing, transportation, storage and marketing. We offer competitive reward driven pay, team based annual incentives, 401K matching and a variety of career advancement opportunities.

We are seeking an individual to be responsible for the day-to-day operation, maintenance, troubleshooting, testing, and calibration of natural gas measurement, quality testing and communications equipment and systems. This position is located in Wheeler, TX.

Additional information on this position can be viewed on the OGE Energy Corp. website. Applicants must apply online at www.oge.com.

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Great location, Newly Remodeled! 3300 sq ft 4 bed, 3.5 bath, All New Built in appliances, HardWood Floors plus apartment in back with 700 sq. ft. that could be extra income. 868-5754

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Field Operations Associate/Field Operations Associate Senior

Pampa, TX

This position performs all the administrative tasks at the office including preparation of correspondence, spreadsheets, purchasing documents, customer and contractor billing documents, payroll time entry for union/non-union personnel. Duties also include answering phones, mail distribution, ordering office supplies, and maintaining and updating databases.

Must have a High School diploma or GED and 3 years administrative experience, preferably in the utility or construction industries. Requires a broad knowledge of business operations and policies, proficiency in use of computer applications including word processing, Microsoft Office products, and database applications. Experience with PassPort, WEBI, BRIO, CRS, OMS (Advantex/Centricity) and TIME preferred.

For additional information and to apply, visit www.xcelenergy.com referencing posting number UG-TX-0146. Posting expires 3/18/09 at 5 p.m. CDT. EOE/AA

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12016 White Acres	\$234,900	4/2/5/3 - 2441 SF/GCAD
2518 Evergreen	\$179,900	3/2/2 - 2331 SF/GCAD
2238 Christine	\$162,000	3/2/5/1 - 2326 SF/GCAD
1819 Evergreen	\$157,900	4/1, 75, 75/2 - 2315 SF/GCAD
2300 Navajo	\$142,500	4/2/5/2 - 2088 SF/GCAD
2224 N Christine	\$139,900	4/2/2 - 1914 SF/GCAD
405 E Linda Dr	\$120,000	2/1 5/2 - 1856 SF/GCAD
1020 Mary Ellen	\$90,000	3/1 75/1 - 1811 SF/GCAD
2530 Mary Ellen	\$88,000	4/1 75/1 - 1684 SF/GCAD
1535 N Russell	\$83,000	2/1/2 - 1624 SF/GCAD
1414 N Williston	\$82,500	3/1 75/2(1att)det - 1577 SF/GCAD
2520 Charles	\$82,000	3/1 75/2 - 1290 SF/GCAD
2215 N Russell	\$69,900	2/1/1 - 1216 SF/GCAD
1602 N Charles	\$69,500	3/2 50/2 - 1947 SF/GCAD
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1344 Gortland	\$23,000	2/1/1 - 888 SF/GCAD

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1141 S Christy \$35,000 3/1/1 - 1520 SF/GCAD

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2112 Lynn \$105,000 3/2/2 - 1520 SF/GCAD
2137 N Faulkner \$82,000 3/1 75/1 - 1475 SF/GCAD
1101 Seneca \$80,000 3/1 75/1 - 1192 SF/GCAD
1801 N Banks \$79,900 3/1 5/1 - 1196 SF/GCAD
1820 N Wells \$77,000 4/1/0 - 1368 SF/GCAD
2900 Rosewood Ln \$64,500 3/1 5/0 - 1537 SF/GCAD
1145 Seneca Lane \$65,000 3/1/0 - 1369 SF/GCAD
1921 N Christy \$59,900 3/1 75/1 - 1096 SF/GCAD
800 N Wells \$55,900 3/2/0 - 1248 SF/GCAD

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701 N Powell \$92,000 3/2/3 - 1890 SF/GCAD
1125 Starkweather \$49,900 3/1/0 - 1072 SF/GCAD
1001 E Foster \$49,000 3/1/0 - 1220 SF/GCAD
415 Starkweather \$30,000 2/1/0 - 1316 SF/GCAD

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530 Acres Near Lefors \$530,000 Ranch West Of Lefors
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7400 Cnty Rd 14 \$125,000 4/3/0 - 2865 SF+10 Acres
1503 Lions St, Miami \$109,900 3/2/2 - 1780 SF/GCAD+69 Acre
11609 Cnty Rd E \$109,000 3/1/1 - 1365+3 acres/GCAD
401 E 4th, Lefors \$35,000 2/1/2 - 1080 SF/GCAD

Pampa Realty Inc. 669-0007

Pampa MLS & Amarillo MLS

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Rebecca Akins 662-2190
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Donna Courter 595-0779
Twila Fisher (BKR) 440-2314
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Linda Lapacka 662-9611
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Shar-pei puppies
1 male, 1 female.
AKC Reg. \$500
each, 898-6900.

95 Furn. Apts.

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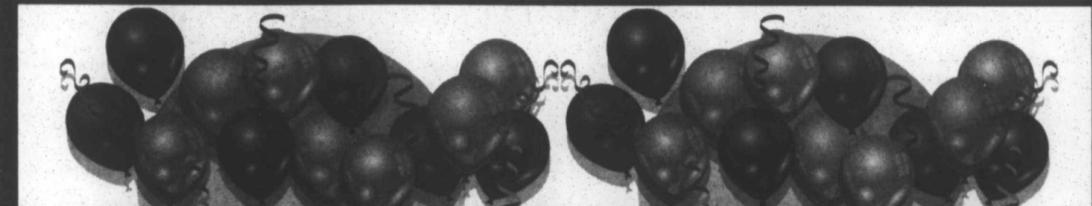
121 Trucks

121 Trucks

3-7 CRYPTOQUOTE

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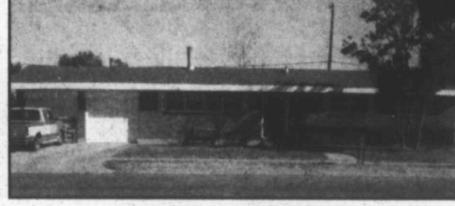
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N. CHRISTY - Good street appeal. Updated 3 bedroom home with new floor coverings, range and dishwasher. Spacious living room and kitchen-dining area. MLS 08-8051

DOUCETTE - Home on corner lot with front patio. Hardwood floors are covered with carpet. Extra storage, three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, garage with storage and carport. MLS 08-8085

E. BROWNING - Nice corner lot with many shade trees. Duplex would make a nice big house or two rentals. Woodburning stove. Close to Wilson School. Lots of storage. Wood floors. Central heat & single garage. MLS 08-8100

N. CHRISTY - Loads of potential, hardwood flooring under carpet. New paint throughout. Central heat and air replaced in '07. This home has an open living floor plan. Isolated master, spacious utility room, and nice backyard. Three bedrooms. MLS 08-8096

CHRISTINE - Spacious home located on corner lot. Four bedrooms, 3 baths, formal dining room, and breakfast nook. Hardwood floors and ceramic tile in kitchen. Lots of storage. Detached garage has a workshop. Sprinkler system, basement, and much more. MLS 08-8109

COMANCHE - Four bedroom home with 2 living areas and a woodburning fireplace. Neutral colors and very well-kept. Isolated master, new heat and air, new fence, 1-3/4 baths, storm windows, storage building, and a double garage. MLS 08-8131

RUSSELL - Large roomy 5 bedroom home with sprinkler system. Large shop and deck in the back. Formal dining room and large utility room. 2-1/2 baths, hardwood flooring, 2 central heat and air units. Detached double garage. MLS 08-8143

CHRISTINE - Located on corner lot with a circle driveway. Screened in garden room in the back yard and sprinkler system in the front. Two living areas, woodburning fireplace, three bedrooms, two baths, single garage plus carport. MLS 08-8142

COMANCHE - Spacious four bedroom with new carpet and paint. New dishwasher and microwave. Open living area and kitchen. Tile entry, kitchen and utility room. Covered patio and workshop in back. Sprinkler system and double heated garage. MLS 08-8141

DOGWOOD - Very nice home that has been redone. New carpet, hardwood floors, new paint, new cabinet tops. Open living dining and kitchen areas. Wood burning fireplace, nice built-in. Large isolated master has a large bath and closet. All bedrooms have walk-in closets. Large utility room, large back yard with nice trees. MLS 08-8138

EVERGREEN - Two living areas, large eat-in kitchen, three bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, sun-room, some updating has been done with new paint and laminate flooring. Has island and pot rack in kitchen. Double garage. MLS 08-8134

TERRY - Nice three bedroom home with siding. Glass doors in kitchen with center island. Bath has been updated with new tile tub surround. Single garage. MLS-08-8182

GRAPE - Lovely executive home with great curb appeal. Custom-built with extra large mater suite and setting room. Master bath has tub and shower with 2 walk-in closets. Utility with pantry, covered patio, storage building, nice game room. Kitchen has ash cabinets and large breakfast bar. MLS 08-8181

N. DWIGHT - Home has been updated with new floors, new paint, new faucets and kitchen sink. Cabinets have been refinished. Kitchen and entry hall have tile floors. Living room has woodburning fireplace with lots of shelves. Utility has large pantry. French doors, leading out to covered patio. MLS 08-8177

N. CHRISTY - Nice 3 bedroom home with 1-3/4 baths. Storm cellar is 8'x14'. Also included is a garage and workshop in back yard. Dining area is in kitchen. MLS 08-8174

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FBI raid on Georgia-based food charity raises question

ATLANTA (AP) — For more than a decade, Angel Food Ministries seemed like a godsend for families who purchased its low-cost food boxes and the churches that shared millions in revenue for distributing the goods.

It became an economic juggernaut in the faith community, employing hundreds, feeding thousands a month and pouring \$19 million into its network of more than 5,000 host churches in 35 states.

Now, a lawsuit coupled with an FBI raid at the group's headquarters has raised accusations of financial mismanagement at the nonprofit. The raid and ensuing FBI investigation have left congregations and church leaders weighing whether to cut their ties to the high-profile charity after the reported disclosure that six-figure salaries were paid to its founders.

"We get signed up and I start hearing this," said the Rev. Chad Massey, whose Unadilla First Baptist Church in central Georgia planned to place its first Angel Food order this month. "It's kind of hard to know what to do."

FBI officials haven't disclosed the nature of the investigation surrounding the ministry.

Angel Food has acknowledged that a grand jury investigation is looking into what it called "alleged financial irregularities" involving unspecified individuals — but not the ministry itself.

Meanwhile, Angel Food Ministries board members and former employees have filed lawsuits accusing Angel Food leadership of using the non-denominational nonprofit as a moneymaking venture.

The Rev. Joseph Wingo and wife Linda founded the ministry in 1994 to help 34 families hurt by plant closings in the manufacturing town of Monroe, about 45 miles east of Atlanta.

Since then, Angel Food Ministries has grown to hundreds of workers supplying food for anti-poverty programs at more than 5,000 churches spanning several denominations. There are 473 distribution centers listed in Georgia and more than 1,400 concentrated in Texas, Missouri, Tennessee and Pennsylvania.

All told, the ministry says it serves more than 500,000 families a month. It has no plans to interrupt food delivery.

Families typically order multi-meal boxes of meatballs, ham and other staples from monthly menus, spending roughly \$30 for an estimated \$65 worth of groceries, Angel Food says. Later, they collect boxes at churches that are rewarded with at least \$1 for every box delivered.

At Ebenezer United Methodist Church in Conyers, administrative

assistant Glenda Evans said leaders are sticking by Angel Food. "Hopefully it gets worked out," Evans said.

In 2006, the ministry reported revenue of \$96 million dollars and \$17 million in expenses. Tax records from that year show the Wingos and two of their sons earned a combined total in excess of \$2.1 million for leading the ministry, up from just less than a combined \$323,000 a year earlier.

Their combined salaries dipped to \$501,472 in 2007, records showed.

Wingo did not respond to repeated AP requests to be interviewed.

In December, the salaries prompted a national Christian charity watchdog group to flag Angel Food as one of 30 ministries donors should avoid.

"One family for one year making ... more than the president of the United States of America is just kind of outrageous," said Rodney Pitzer, a top official at Wall Watchers. "That should be enough for donors to be concerned."

Two Angel Food board members alleged in a lawsuit last month that the Wingos enriched themselves by at least \$2.7 million and sought to bar the Wingos from their Monroe headquarters. The board members accused the Wingos of directing \$600,000 from Angel Food to their church as a "housing allowance."

In a settlement reached behind closed doors Friday, the Wingos agreed to an audit and to stopping questionable financial practices — like using corporate credit cards for personal expenses — in lieu of being barred from the premises, according to Thomas Rogers, an attorney representing the board members.

Attorneys representing the Wingos would not reveal further details of the settlement, and the Wingos themselves declined to comment.

A statement on Angel Food's Web site called the lawsuit an effort "by two directors who are interested in removing the founders of the ministry — Pastors Joe and Linda Wingo — only to install themselves in the founders place. This is a power grab."

In an earlier statement, Angel Food portrayed the FBI's Feb. 11 search as part of an "investigation of an individual or individuals connected to the organization, and not regarding the ministry itself."

In disputing the suit, Angel Food said it has been "a model corporate citizen," donating \$5.2 million to more than 5,000 communities in 2008.

Luke Erickson, a pastor at Mountain Christian Church near Baltimore, Md., said church leaders like himself received an

explanation from the ministry for the high salaries.

"They've invested a lot in it ... there was some kind of compensation given back to them by Angel Food and it was reflected in a large salary in one year," Erickson said.

Finances of prominent ministries have come under scrutiny of late, including a Senate probe begun last year of claims of extravagant spending by some leaders of Christian broadcast ministries nationwide.

The FBI involvement in the Angel Food case could imply far more than just overpaid staff, said Dean Zerbe, former senior counsel with the U.S. Senate Finance Committee. Though not involved with

the Angel Food case, Zerbe said, "If you have ... the FBI knocking on your door of a charity, you've got issues beyond just paying a fellow too much."

FBI officials had no comment Wednesday, and no charges have been filed.

In Georgia, Donna Foster attends Emmanuel Praise — the Wingos' church — and her son works at Angel Food. Recently, "Pastor Joe found out I was unemployed and he sent me a box of food."

She blamed honest mistakes for any perceived financial mix-ups.

"There are some people you can tell if they're faking it," Foster said. "You can tell that these people are real."



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Texas cities report falling revenues

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — More than 20 percent of Texas cities expect less revenue for 2010 budgets, and 45 percent plan to delay major road and construction projects when revenues fall, according to a statewide survey released Friday.

The Texas Municipal League, which lobbies for city governments, surveyed the finances of cities around the state. According to the report, 11.5 percent of cities with more than 10,000 people brought in less money in 2008 than in 2007, and 23 percent with populations under 10,000 were down in funds.

Frank Sturlz, the league's executive director, said cities decided to raise utility fees or put off major projects rather than raise property taxes.

According to the report, Texas cities get more than 60 percent of their revenue from sales and property taxes. Sturlz said with appraisal values falling and a drop in spending, those sources will continue to fall off and drive city revenues down.

The Pampa News 669-2525