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## Volume 104 • No. 380

# BLIZZARD OF '09

## Nothing but a memory



staff photo by Randy Pribble

Local children took advantage Saturday of the short-lived snow to slide down any hill that still offered a ride.

by Rachel Stennett  
rstennett@thepampanews.com

Only the most stubborn drifts have not succumbed to the warm winds that have prevailed since the snow storm that hit Pampa all day Friday and early Saturday.

The negative effects of the "Blizzard of '09" are just a memory, but Pampa received 1.10" of much needed moisture.

A foot of snow accumulated in our area, closing down schools and highways across the panhandle.

Crews from the Texas Department of Transportation worked throughout the weekend to clear the heavy, wet snow from the streets.

Paul Braun, TxDOT public information officer said that road crews worked from Thursday at 10 a.m. through Sunday at 3 p.m. clearing the streets and drifts which reached 10 feet in areas. Drifts along the highway were in the 3 to 6 foot range, Braun said.

"We had the most problems in the northeast parts of the panhandle," Braun said "but our crews worked non-stop until the job was done." The Amarillo district crews were augmented by crews in the Childress and Lubbock district.

Canadian received a total of 14 inches of the white stuff while Lefors and Perryton had 12 inches of snow.

No motorists were reported stranded in Pampa, according to detective Toby Bias of the Pampa Police Department. Bias did report "quite a few" accidents within the city, but none that resulted in fatalities.

A Red Cross emergency shelter set up at First Baptist Church was never activated, Jana Gregory, Executive Director of the Eastern Panhandle Chapter said. The Red Cross did help a family who had been in a car wreck near Groom by putting them up in a hotel room.

"We were very lucky that everyone stayed home," Gregory said. "It made our job a lot easier."

Joe Millican, Gray County Emergency Management Coordinator, reported low numbers of stranded motorists throughout the county.

Millican said that many people had to stay in hotels, motels, and rest areas throughout Oklahoma and Amarillo where Interstate 40 was closed, but almost all travellers had safe

## Wind may power new junior high

by David Bowser  
dbowser@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Independent School District is exploring the possibility of using wind energy to reduce energy costs at their new junior high school.

The school board listened to a presentation by Entegrity Wind Systems, Inc., a Boulder, Colo., based wind energy company that proposed putting wind turbines at the site of the new Pampa Junior High School on the northwest edge of town. Entegrity has worked with several school districts around Lubbock and installed wind turbines for them.

Among the first to try the wind energy system was Shallowater on Lubbock's north side. They have five wind turbines and have cut their energy costs by 50 percent.

More recently, according to Becki Meadows, Entegrity sales director who made the school board presentation by telephone from Boulder (a blizzard in Denver prevented her from making the trip to Pampa), the company installed two wind turbines to help produce power for the Monohans water treatment facility. The company has also installed wind

Wind — cont. on page 3

## PISD, CC partner to benefit students

by David Bowser  
dbowser@thepampanews.com

Pampa Independent School District Assistant Superintendent Evan Smith said a new partnership with Clarendon College would allow Pampa High School students to earn college credits prior to graduation.

While the initial program is focused on college bound students, she said, they are developing a program that would include vocational certifications as well.

"I'm really excited about it," Smith said. The program, which started last fall, includes dual credit, high school and college, in biology, chemistry, computers, economics, literature, government and history.

This spring's offerings also include math and sociology.

The Clarendon College

Pampa Center has 319 students enrolled. Of those, 99 are Pampa High School students. About half the Pampa High students are taking one class from Clarendon College. Almost 40 percent are taking two classes.

Smith said that two students are taking four classes.

This spring, only two of the students are going to Pampa Center. Six are taking the classes online and 148 are taking them at Pampa High School.

Smith said the Clarendon College instructors have worked around the district's schedules.

"We've had great cooperation," Raymond Jaramillo, dean of the Clarendon College Pampa Center, said of the high school.

Smith said that next year, the offering will include biology, business, drama,

economics, government, algebra, psychology, music appreciation, physical fitness and environmental workforce classes.

There will also be an introductory class in wind energy, Jaramillo said.

Through the partnership, an associate of arts degree in general studies will be available for high school students beginning this summer.

High school juniors can take four hours in each of the two summer sessions, 21 hours during their junior year, 12 hours during the summer sessions before their senior year and 21 hours their senior year.

The tuition and fees will cost about \$5,400, Smith said. There will also be an associate degree in applied science available.

Partners — cont. on page 3

**Easter Egg Hunt**  
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**PAMPA FORECAST**

**Tuesday**      **Wednesday**      **Thursday**



**High 55**  
**Low 39**

**High 62**  
**Low 35**

**High 55**  
**Low 37**

**Tuesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 55. Wind chill values between 30 and 40 early. West wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 39. West wind around 10 mph becoming south southeast.

**Wednesday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 62. South wind 10 to 20 mph becoming west. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** A 30 percent chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 35. Windy, with a north northwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 55. Northeast wind 15 to 20 mph decreasing to between 5 and 10 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 37. Calm wind becoming south between 10 and 15 mph.

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**Grain prices**

The following grain quotations are provided by Atterbury Grain of White Deer. Prices quoted are for the close of the last market day.

Wheat.....	\$4.50
Milo.....	\$5.13
Corn.....	\$6.70

**Cash Five Texas results**

AUSTIN (AP)— Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:  
Winning numbers drawn: 1-15-35-12-27.  
Number matching five of five: none.  
Matching four of five: 85. Prize: \$464  
Matching three of five: 2,475. Prize: \$12  
Matching two of five: 26,038. Prize: \$2  
Next Cash 5 drawing: Monday night.

**Daily 4 results evening drawing**

AUSTIN (AP)— The winning Daily 4 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 8-2-6-8. Sum It Up: 24 (eight, two, six, eight. Sum It Up: twenty-four)

**Pick 3 results nighttime drawing**

AUSTIN (AP)—The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 6-7-6. Sum It Up: 19 (six, seven, six. Sum It Up: nineteen)

**Emergency Services**

**PAMPA PD**

Pampa Police Department reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Thursday and 7 a.m. today.

**Thursday**  
Officers conducted four traffic stops.  
A total of 15 calls and/or stops concerning animals were made.  
Disorderly conduct was reported at Pampa High School, 111 East Harvester.  
Stolen vehicles were reported in the 1100 block of East Darby, and the 700 block of North Wells.  
Traffic complaints were received from the 900 block of East Frederic, and the 1000 block of West Harvester.  
Two alarms were investigated.  
Civil matters were reported in the lobby of the PD, and the 1400 block of West Somerville.  
Lost property was reported in the 1400 block of West Somerville were a social security card was lost.  
Violation of a protective order was reported in the 2200 block of North Chestnut, and the 400 block of North Roberta.  
Silent/abusive 911 calls were received from the 2200 block of North Aspen.  
Motor vehicle accidents were reported in the intersection of Hobart and Kentucky streets.

A welfare check was made in the 900 block of East Frederic.  
A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 700 block of West Kingsmill.  
Forgery was reported in the 600 block of East Frederic.  
Suspicious person calls were received from the 300 block of East Brown, the 400 block of North Hobart, and the 1000 block of West Wilks.  
**Friday**  
Officers conducted two traffic stops.  
A total of three calls and/or stops concerning animals were made.  
Suspicious person calls were received from the 300 block of North Banks, the intersection of Murphy and Reid, the 200 block of East Brown, and the 1000 block of South Somerville.  
A suspicious vehicle call was received from the 200 block of North Ballard.  
Phone harassment was reported in the 500 block of Lowry, and the 1500 block of North Dogwood.  
Two alarms were investigated.  
Agency assistance was rendered in the 500 block of North Lefors.  
Motor vehicle accidents were reported in the intersection of Sumner and Wells streets, and the intersection of Duncan and Harvester streets.  
Theft was reported in the 1300 block of North

**For the Record**

**Obituaries**

**Nell V. Smith Derr, 91**

Bartlesville, Okla., formerly of Clarendon — Nell V. Smith Derr, 91 died on Friday, March 27, 2009 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma.  
Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2009 in the Fairview Cemetery in Pampa, Texas with Rev. Ray O'Quinn, officiating.  
Interment will be at Fairview Cemetery in Pampa.  
Arrangements are being made through Robertson Funeral Directors of Clarendon.  
Nell V. Smith Derr was born September 22, 1917 at Oakley, Tenn. the daughter of Leo Kirby Smith and Mattie Sidwell Smith. Her family moved to Granite, Okla. where she met and married Elbert Marion Derr on February 22 1936. Elbert and Nell were married for 54 years until his death on December, 19, 1990.  
She moved to Dewey, Okla. in 2006. Nell loved to garden, fish, play bingo and watch her favorite

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baseball team the Atlanta Braves.  
She was preceded in death by her husband Elbert and five brothers and sisters; Omar, Paul, Noreen, Jessie and Gladys.  
Survivors include her son Marion Bill Derr and his wife Frankie of Bartlesville, Okla.; two grandchildren Randy Derr and his wife Jeanne of Bartlesville, Okla. and Kent Derr and his wife Carol of Sinking Springs, Pa.; five great-grandchildren, Erik Derr and his wife Linda of Chicago, Ill.; Jennifer Derr of Oklahoma City, Ryan and Josh Derr of Sinking Springs, Pa.; one sister, Robbie Smith of St. George, Utah.  
**MEMORIALS** - The family request memorials be to Carter Hospice, 3081 S.E. Washington Blvd., Bartlesville, OK 74006.  
Sign our online guest book: [www.RobertsonFuneral.com](http://www.RobertsonFuneral.com)

**Emergency Services**

A suicide attempt was reported in the 1500 block of East Frederic.  
**Saturday**  
Officers conducted two traffic stops.  
Seven attempts to serve papers were made.  
Twelve motorists were assisted.  
An assault as reported in the 1600 block of West Somerville.  
Three alarms were investigated.  
A stolen vehicle was reported in the 1200 block of North Garland, where a 1995 Toyota 4Runner was stolen and recovered.  
Civil matters were reported in the 1400 block of North Hobart, the lobby of the PD, and the 1100 block of East Darby.  
A total of three calls and/or stops concerning animals were made.  
Motor vehicle accidents were reported in the 1800 block of North Coffee.  
A traffic complaint was received from the 100 block of South Ballard.  
Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of East Kentucky.  
Phone harassment was reported in the 500 block of North Lowry.  
Disorderly conduct was reported in the intersection of 17th and Beech streets, the 1100 block of South Varnon, and the 800 block of East Francis.  
Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Crawford and Huff streets, and the 1100 block of South Varnon.  
Harassment was reported in the 500 block of North Lowry.  
**Sunday**  
Officers conducted 20 traffic stops.  
A silent/abusive 911 call was received from the 400 block of North Nelson.  
Disorderly conduct was reported in the 300 block of North Cuyler, and the 2700 block of North Hobart.  
A prowler was reported in the 1500 block of North Faulkner.  
Suspicious person calls were received from the intersection of Gwendolyn and Wells streets, the intersection of Tuke and Gillespie streets, the 1400 block of North Hobart, and the 200 block of West Foster.  
Criminal trespass was reported in the 1400 block of South Barnes.  
A welfare check was made in the 1600 block of North Somerville.  
A total of four calls and/or stops concerning animals were made.  
Motor vehicle accidents were reported in the 1000 block of Duncan, and the 1000 block of North Wells.  
Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 900 block of East Kentucky, where a windshield was broken, passenger mirror busted off, and the right side of an entire vehicle was scratched with a crowbar, valued at \$2,500.  
A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2100 block of North Banks.  
A prowler was reported in the 100 block of Wynne.  
A traffic complaint was received from the 1800 block of North Nelson.  
A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 500 block of East Francis.  
**Monday**  
Officers conducted a total of four traffic stops.  
A suspicious person call was received from the intersection of Kentucky and Sumner.  
Suspicious vehicle calls were received from the 1400 block of North Hobart, and the intersection of Sumner and Somerville streets.  
Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of North Powell.  
Theft was reported in the 1000 block of East Fisher.

**SHERIFF**

Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests.  
**Sunday**  
Jesus Rodriguez, 29, of Pampa was arrested by the Pampa Police Department for unlawful carrying of a weapon, and no driver's license.  
Kevin Dwayne Nickleberry, 29, of Amarillo was arrested by the PPD for driving while intoxicated, second, possession of marijuana, and no driver's license.  
Matthew Riley Archibald, 31, of Pampa was arrested by the PPD for driving while intoxicated.  
Kerry Lynn Cloud, 37, of Mobeetie was arrested by the PPD for a terroristic threat.  
Michael Wayne Blalack, 51, of Pampa was arrested by the PPD for warrants on expired driver's license, failure to appear, no valid driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility, no proof of financial responsibility, and expired motor vehicle insurance.  
Marcus Elias Montez, 20, of Liberal, Kans. was arrested by the Department of Public Safety for fugitive warrants on possession of marijuana in Liberal, Kans.  
Ulysses Roy Meek, 42, of Pampa was arrested by the PPD for assault causing bodily injury, family violence.  
Kermit Kenneth Hartley, Jr., 40, of Elk City, Okla. was arrested by the PPD for warrants on violation of probation, purchasing alcohol for a minor.  
Charles Wayne Kemp, 41, of Pampa was arrested by the GCSO for warrants on expired motor operator license, failure to maintain financial responsibility, and failure to appear.

**FIRE**

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls.  
**Friday**  
7:35 a.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 1200 block of Wilks on a motor vehicle accident.  
1:00 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the intersection of Duncan and Harvester on a motor vehicle accident.  
**Saturday**  
No calls  
**Sunday**  
1:51 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 600 block of North Sumner on a lift assist.  
**AMBULANCE**  
Guardian EMS ambulance service reported the following calls.  
**Friday**  
10:51 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Love. No patients were transported.  
5:53 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to a local nursing home and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.  
8:51 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 1500 block of Kentucky.  
**Saturday**  
12:45 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to North West Texas Hospital in Amarillo.  
11:28 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1600 block of Hamilton and transported a patient to PRMC.  
**Sunday**  
4:58 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1000 block of Love and transported a patient to PRMC.  
8:13 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Starkweather and transported a patient to PRMC.

**Police dash-cams can clear cops, catch wrongdoing**

DALLAS (AP) — When NFL player Ryan Moats was pulled over by a Dallas police officer earlier this month, the incident could have turned into a "he-said-he-said" situation.  
But because Officer Robert Powell had a dashboard mounted camera in his car, the 13-minute harangue of Moats, who pleaded with the rookie officer to let him get to his dying mother-in-law's bedside, was recorded from start to finish.  
The video, which police released last week, has hit the Internet and sparked nationwide outrage. Police Chief David Kunkle has been bombarded with calls to fire Powell, who is on leave.  
In a statement released by his lawyer, Powell said the incident was "unfortunate."  
But while Powell's taped diatribe may prove to

be a career ender, experts say the in-car video can just as often save a career threatened by bogus misconduct claims.  
In-car cameras and video from bystanders have "had a huge impact in being able to provide independent visual documentation of the incident," said Sam Walker, a national police accountability expert, in Sunday's editions of The Dallas Morning News.  
"If the officer did the right thing, then it's good for us to know that and have some independent documentation," he said. "If the officer was in the wrong, then it's good for us to know that. This is what's been lacking in most police use-of-force incidents. Traditionally, you would have had a he-said-he-said situation. As the cliché has always been, the tie goes to the officer."  
The infamous Rodney King beating by Los Angeles police officers 18 years ago solidified the power of video, for the officers and suspects.  
In Moats' case a Plano officer also witnessed part of the traffic stop and reported it to his supervisors. But without the video, an internal affairs probe may have stalled.  
"It would have been their word against (Powell), and it probably would have ended up being inconclusive," said Assistant Chief Floyd Simpson, who oversees the city's seven patrol stations. "The in-car camera systems bring a different view."  
In Dallas, about 67 percent of the department's 906 squad cars have one of the \$4,400 cameras, said Lt. Dale Barnard, the department's fleet coordinator.  
The camera begins recording automatically when an officer flips on lights and sirens, or if the patrol car is in a crash. More than 250,000 people use in-car cameras.

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## New energy for school

Wind— cont. from page 1

turbines for a Norfolk Southern Railway water treatment facility.

Entegri has installed 100 turbines in the 15 years that they've been in business.

Meadows' proposal would erect one 50-kilowatt wind turbine atop a lattice-work tower at a cost of \$222,500, with the possibility of increasing the number to five to ten turbines.

The turbines are relatively small compared to the 1.5-megawatt turbines being considered for commercial wind farms.

The 50-kilowatt turbine would cost \$135,000, the 120-foot tower would cost \$22,000, and the cost of the installation would be \$60,000.

Each turbine would produce between 140,000 to 160,000 kilowatts of power annually.

The turbines would have a five-year warranty with an extended warranty available at extra cost, Meadows said.

The estimated savings the first year would be \$9,000 plus revenue from a Renewable Energy Credit of \$3,000.

Meadows indicated that the energy savings would increase over time.

The estimated cumulative 30-years savings would be \$597,950, she said.

The estimated payback would be about 18.6 years.

School board President Charles Smith was less than enthusiastic about the long payback period. He said he would like to see a payback closer to three years.

While there are federal and state incentives for wind energy, they are presently in flux, but there

appears to be support in the new administration in Washington for wind and solar energy and Meadows said she expects to see increased incentives in Texas as the state legislature begins to act on programs next month as they begin to wind down their biennial session in Austin.

Smith and school board member Lee Porter questioned whether there are federal or state funding that would offset installation of a wind turbine for local schools.

Smith said he would like to know more about the Shallowater Independent School District concerning their program. Shallowater ISD, according to Meadows, saves over \$65,000 annually in energy costs because of their wind turbines.



submitted photo

Photo taken on the evening of March 28, 2009 by area resident Earnest Willis, Highway 70 north of pampa near the new Jr. High School entrance of the Texas Highway dept doing snow removal. What a great job they do.

## Partnerships for students

Partners— cont. from page 1

This summer those courses include cosmetology, office technology, computer drafting and computer technology.

Future applied science degree programs are expected to include welding, heating and air conditioning, wind energy,

diesel mechanics and radio production.

Smith said that courses through Clarendon College cost about \$150 an hour for the online courses or about \$267 for regular courses, not including textbooks.

Pampa High School also

offers dual credit through the Texas Tech High School program.

These are college-level courses, she said, taught by Texas Tech University faculty. These classes run from \$500 to \$700 including books.

## Blizzard moved out quickly

Storm— cont. from page 1

and adequate shelter. "We let people on I-40 travel on through to Amarillo so they wouldn't be stuck," Millican explained. "Other people were staged along the interstate in hotels or rest stops. We did not have very many motorists who

were absolutely stranded. "Millican said that the majority of people heeded warnings about the storm and stayed home if possible, which helped reduce the amount of stranded motorists. "Everyone heeded the warnings ahead of time.

We were pleased with the all the help we had getting the word out ahead of time."

The local chapter of The American Red Cross had set up shelters for and the National Guard was on standby to help with people in need as well.

## Guns on Campus: Bills would allow guns at college

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — John Woods sometimes sits in a classroom at the University of Texas and wonders what would happen if somebody walked in and started shooting.

It's the kind of scenario he's imagined since April 2007, when he was a student at Virginia Tech and his girlfriend and several other people he knew were gunned down in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

There were times when Woods thought to himself that maybe he should get a gun.

"Then I learned pretty fast that wouldn't solve anything," said Woods, who is now a graduate student at UT. "The idea that somebody could stop a school shooting with a gun is impossible. It's reactive, not preventative."

Today, Woods is among the leaders in a fight against bills in the Texas Legislature that would allow licensed concealed gun carriers to bring their weapons to school.

The House version of the bill, sponsored by Rep. Joe Driver, a Garland Republican, is scheduled for a public hearing Monday in the Public Safety Committee.

Supporters say the bills would do two things: protect the rights of those licensed to carry concealed weapons, and help prevent another massacre on the scale of what happened at Virginia Tech and another shooting last year at Northern Illinois University.

Texas issued 73,090 licenses in fiscal year 2008. The state requires applicants pass a training course, pass a criminal background check and be at least 21 years old. Texas campuses are gun-free zones.

"These are individuals who are already licensed and allowed to carry

weapons. What marks the imaginary line of college campuses?" said Katie Kasprzak, a recent Texas State University graduate and spokeswoman for Students for Concealed Carry on Campus, a group that claims more than 37,000 members.

At Virginia Tech, 32 people were gunned down before the shooter killed himself. The gunman at Northern Illinois killed five and wounded 18.

Sen. Jeff Wentworth, R-San Antonio, sponsor of the Senate bill, said students, faculty and staff are "sitting ducks" if someone starts blasting.

"I have no desire to wake up one morning and read in the newspaper, or hear on the radio, or watch on television a news report that 32 Texas college students were gunned down like sitting ducks by some deranged gunman," Wentworth said.

According to the Brady

Campaign Against Gun Violence, bills have been filed in 18 states since 2008 and all have failed. Texas is one of seven states currently considering legislation.

Of the 150 House members, 70 have signed on in support of Drivers' bill. In the Senate, 12 of 31 senators signed in support of Wentworth's bill.

At the University of Texas, which has its own history of shooting violence, the idea has met stiff opposition.

Charles Whitman's 1966 shooting rampage from the top of the university tower killed 16 people and wounded dozens more. It stood as the worst campus shooting in history until the Virginia Tech blood-bath.

The UT student government, the graduate student assembly and the faculty advisory council have all passed resolutions against the campus guns bills.



staff photo by David Bowser

Snow on wheat field near White Deer Saturday.

## Woman fatally shot outside Dallas club

DALLAS (AP) — A 24-year-old woman was shot to death outside a downtown nightclub early Sunday as she waited for a valet to return with her car. Jessica Waldron of Dallas was with a friend outside the 2026 Ultra Lounge on Commerce Street about 2:20 a.m.

when someone fired multiple rounds. The gunshots came from a dark-colored, possibly stepside-style pickup headed south on nearby Pearl Street, investigators said.

Waldron, who was shot once in the stomach, was taken to Baylor University Medical Center, where she

underwent surgery. She died about noon Sunday.

Police do not believe Waldron was targeted.

Police are seeking witnesses who may have seen the shooting or been driving south on Pearl when it occurred.

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# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Monday, March 30, the 89th day of 2009. There are 276 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 30, 1981, President Ronald Reagan was shot and seriously injured outside a Washington hotel by John W. Hinckley Jr. Also wounded were White House press secretary James Brady, Secret Service agent Timothy McCarthy and District of Columbia police officer Thomas Delahanty.

On this date:

In 1822, Florida became a United States territory.

In 1842, Dr. Crawford W. Long of Jefferson, Ga., first used ether as an anesthetic during a minor operation.

In 1867, U.S. Secretary of State William H. Seward reached agreement with Russia to purchase the territory of Alaska for \$7.2 million, a deal roundly ridiculed as "Seward's Folly."

*'If you keep on saying things are going to be bad, you have a good chance of being a prophet.'*

— Isaac Bashevis Singer, American Nobel Prize-winning author

In 1870, the 15th Amendment to the Constitution, giving all citizens the right to vote regardless of race, was declared in effect by Secretary of State Hamilton Fish. Texas was readmitted to the Union.

In 1909, the Queensboro Bridge, linking the New York City boroughs

of Manhattan and Queens, opened.

In 1959, a narrowly divided U.S. Supreme Court, in *Bartkus v. Illinois*, ruled that a conviction in state court following an acquittal in federal court for the same crime did not violate the Constitution's protection against double jeopardy.

In 1964, John Glenn withdrew from the Ohio race for the U.S. Senate because of injuries suffered in a fall.

In 2002, Britain's Queen Mother Elizabeth died in her sleep at Royal Lodge, Windsor, outside London; she was 101 years old.

Five years ago: In a reversal, President George W. Bush agreed to let National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice testify publicly and under oath before an independent panel investigating the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. British-born American broadcaster Alistair Cooke died in New York at age 95.

One year ago: The Army said the remains of Sgt. Matt Maupin, captured in Iraq in 2004, had been found and identified. Chinese spectators cheered as Greece handed off the Olympic flame for its journey to Beijing and relay through 20 countries; but protesters brandishing Tibetan flags stole the limelight. Cambodian-born journalist Dith Pran, whose story became the subject of the award-winning film "The Killing Fields," died at age 65.

Today's Birthdays: Game show host Peter Marshall is 83. Actor Richard Dysart is 80. Actor John Astin is 79. Actor-director Warren Beatty is 72. Rock musician Graeme Edge (The Moody Blues) is 68. Rock musician Eric Clapton is 64. Actor Justin Deas (TV: "Guiding Light") is 61. Actor Robbie Coltrane is 59. Actor Paul Reiser is 52. Rap artist MC Hammer is 46. Singer Tracy Chapman is 45. Actor Ian Ziering is 45. Singer Celine Dion is 41. Actor Mark Consuelos is 38. Disc jockey DJ AM is 36. Singer Norah Jones is 30.



## Local newspapers vital to environment

By Glenn Scherer

This February, Denver's Rocky Mountain News died. In March, The Tucson Citizen followed. Meanwhile hundreds of other American newspapers reduced staff and declared themselves in significant economic trouble.

Many commentators have lamented the passage of local newspapers; others foretell a not yet arrived golden age of electronic news reporting. But few have mentioned one of the biggest potential losers in the demise of print publishing: our local environment — the clean air, water, land, forests, beaches, wetlands and wildlife that enrich our communities.

Since the days of muck-raking reporter Upton Sinclair and his establishment-shaking revelations about a corrupt Chicago meat packing industry, responsible local investigative journalists have shone a withering light on corporate polluters, unscrupulous developers, dishonest officials, and incompetent environmental regulators — thereby making our hometowns better, safer, more enjoyable places to live.

Likewise, local activists have relied on community newspapers for accurate unbiased reporting. With little or no money to buy publicity, environmental activists, like Love Canal's Lois Gibbs, scribbled outraged but informed letters to the Editor, or sponsored public meetings and

protests that were sure to attract a reporter from the local paper. That's one way activists marshal grassroots troops against environmental injustice.

In Anniston, Alabama, for example, it was a neighborhood group called the Community Against Pollution (CAP) that in the late 1990's spoke up for West Anniston, "a part of town that is largely poor, largely black, largely forgotten, and largely polluted," according to John Fleming, then The Anniston Star's editorial page editor. CAP led the charge against a grossly negligent Monsanto Corporation that let toxic PCBs leach into soils, and an equally negligent Alabama Department of Environmental Management, "more of a permit facilitator for industry than a protector of the environment," said Fleming.

But it was The Anniston Star's reporting about CAP, including the filing of a lawsuit, that helped bring the issue to the attention of the rest of the city and the state, and moved the US Environmental Protection Agency to act. The paper's reputation for integrity and truth-telling helped shine a light on West Anniston's plight. And corruption — whether in the form of toxic waste or government malfeasance — can't stand much light.

You'll find thousands of "light bringing" stories like that of West Anniston in

big city editions, mid-size dailies and small town weeklies. One of the most instructive recent examples I can think of is that of the New Orleans Times-Picayune, which reported the likelihood of Mississippi River levee failures a year before Hurricane Katrina, along with an obvious reason for those failings: the diversion of federal funds away from levee construction to the Iraq War by the Bush administration.

But every example isn't a matter of life or death. Without the small newspaper in my hometown of Vernon, New Jersey, activists couldn't have defeated a cell phone tower slated for construction within eyeshot of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, or the illegal trading of a state wildlife management area for a proposed 165-unit condo complex; or the demolition of a Revolutionary War-era tavern for a Burger King. Those battles played out on the pages of The Vernon News, with both sides vying for the people's hearts and minds. This is democracy at work, even if it is democracy writ small, not large.

So if you are looking for the next big, breaking, nationally important environmental story, don't go first to CNN or Google News. Rather look for those stories percolating upwards from the pages of your community newspaper.

Or at least that is the

way things were. In a 2008 editorial, John Fleming of The Anniston Star summed up the greatest worry of many involved in community journalism: "If local media no longer is local, how does it fulfill one of its most essential roles: informing the community in times of peril?"

Fleming was asking this question about a local radio station that had recently been mechanized and so failed to report an oncoming tornado. He might however just as readily have asked what would have happened if there had been no local paper to trumpet the peril posed by PCBs to the people of West Anniston?

As our economy implodes, and deregulated corporate shenanigans reach unbelievable heights, it would be foolish for us to imagine that no company out there is quietly trying to dispose of toxic waste in somebody's backyard, or that state or federal regulators might not be asleep at the switch as that waste gets dumped.

The best thing you can do to defend against such possibilities in your community? Support your local newspaper. Buy a subscription. Read every edition.

Glenn Scherer is co-editor of Blue Ridge Press. His columns about the environment have appeared on the Op Ed pages of small town and big city newspapers across the nation.

### THE PAMPA NEWS

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### Sunshine filings

The Texas Public Information Act states:

"This act shall be liberally construed in favor of the granting of information. Records of the executive and legislative branches of state and local governments are public unless some other law makes them confidential or they are covered by various exceptions to the Act. The government must provide the records, either for inspection or for copying within a reasonable time, but no later than 10 business days after receiving the request."

On March 25, Betsy Phillips, editor of The Pampa News, requested copies of the following documents from the City of Pampa:

The City of Pampa's operating budget for the current fiscal year.

The 2007-2008 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report accepted at the March 24 regular meeting of the Pampa City Commission.

The city administration required filing of a Freedom of Information form to obtain these documents.

As of press time today, the documents had been received

### TAG holds forum on forced blood draws

AUSTIN, Texas - On March 30, 6-8pm, in City Hall Chambers, Texans for Accountable Government will host a public forum for Austin residents to have the opportunity to express their opinions regarding the general issue of forced blood draws, and especially Chief Art Acevedo's plans to train Austin Police Officers to withdraw blood from DWI suspects.

On the panel will be Austin Police Chief Art Acevedo, MADD State Executive Director Karen Housewright, Austin City Council Member Mike Martinez, ACLU-TX Central Texas Chapter President Debbie Russell, and Texans for Accountable Government Executive Director John Bush. The forum will be moderated by local Austin TV and radio host David Kobierowski.

On July 10, 2008, Police Chief Art Acevedo sent a memo to the Austin City Council expressing his desire to implement a federally-funded program to train police officers to withdraw blood - by force if necessary - from DWI suspects who refuse a breathalyzer test. Acevedo announced, "my intention in the future is to make it so there is no such thing as a refusal." He then went on to state that "if a pilot program were to be initiated, it would be my intention to host a town hall meeting to allow for community feedback."

Since that time, Chief Acevedo has implemented three "No Refusal Weekends" without any opportunity for "community feedback". These have garnered much opposition, yet the Chief continues to pursue his plan of action, that is, training officers to draw blood in lieu of - or in addition to - having the medical professionals now contracted to collect evidence for the prosecution do so. John Bush of Texans for Accountable Government said, "we're hoping to send a message to City Hall and police Chief Acevedo that we want an open forum before something like this is to be implemented."

# Around town

## Pampa's Kolbie Hefner is Best Teen Chef

Houston—Hundreds of high school seniors turned budding chefs took the first step toward launching what could be the beginning of their professional culinary careers.

Saturday, March 14, high school seniors from across the U.S. and Canada competed in Best Teen Chef Local Cook-off Competitions at participating International Culinary Schools at The Art Institutes locations throughout North America including, The Art Institute of Houston.

The winner of Houston's Best Teen Chef Local Cook-off Competition is Kolbie Hefner a senior at Pampa Senior High School from White Deer, Texas. In addition to her title, she also received \$5,000 scholarship to attend The Art Institute of Houston.

The 34 Local Cook-off

Competition winners will proceed to the Best Teen Chef Final Round Competition on Saturday, May 9, at The Art Institute of Charlotte in North Carolina.

"I'm excited to represent Houston on a national scale," said Hefner. "I'm passionate about being a chef. It's something I've dreamed about, and now, I'm a step closer."

The top prize winner in the Competition can earn a full-tuition scholarship toward a bachelor's degree, an associate's degree, certificate program or diploma program to study Culinary Arts at one of the more than 30 participating Art Institutes locations.

In addition to a full-tuition scholarship and the title of Best Teen Chef 2009, the national first place winner, in partner-

ship with Food Network, will be an "Intern for a Day" at Food Network Kitchens in New York City. The winner will also receive a tour of Food Network's studios, dinner for two at a Food Network chef's restaurant and a library of Food Network Kitchens cookbooks.

The Art Institutes created the Best Teen Chef competition in 2000 to encourage and recognize young culinary talent. According to Chef Joe O'Donnell, Director of Culinary Arts, "The interest in culinary arts among young people has literally soared in recent years." O'Donnell explains, "This is due to many factors, among them, working parents, the proliferation of cooking shows on television, and the desire to participate in family traditions."



submitted photo  
Judge Chef Devin Corbett, Judge Chef Robyn Trinemeyer, Judge Chef Abbey Lewellyn, Winner Kolbie Hefner and Instructor Chef Scott Fernandez

## MARCH SWEETHEART



staff photo by ReDonn Woods

**Celeste Gonzales, daughter of Eddie and Cecilia Losoya, is the Pampa Lions Club March sweetheart. Activities and honors include member of SADD, member of the Students Crime Stoppers, Spanish Club President, DECA advisory board, and National Honor Society. She has won DECA competitions at the state level two years in a row and will be competing at the National DECA Convention in Anaheim, California, in April. Celeste volunteers at St. Vincent De Paul on Wednesdays as well as at local elementary schools. She currently works part-time at Keyes Pharmacy. Celeste has been accepted into Texas Tech University and plans to enter in the field of Pre-Dentistry and hopes to become a successful dentist.**

## Quisenberry stands first in rodeo series

Colt Quisenberry, an 8 year old formerly of Miami, Texas, is currently standing in first place in 12 and Under Steer Riding in the 32nd C-T Winter Series Rodeo held each year in Lubbock.

He is the youngest steer rider to have ever participated in the series. This is his third season to compete in Lubbock, skipping calf riding and starting on steers when he was five years old.

Colt began riding rough stock when he was 3. Finals will be held April 25, 2009 in Lubbock.

Colt is the son of Justin and Dustie Rose of Sayre, OK. He is the grandson of Larry and Mary Quisenberry of Miami, TX and Henry and Earlene Rose of Sayre.



## RRC production stats and allowables for April

AUSTIN — The Texas average rig count as of March 13 was 453, representing about 42 percent of all active land rigs in the United States.

In the last 12 months, total Texas reported production was 346 million barrels of oil and 7.3 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

Texas natural gas production represents approximately 29 percent of total U.S. natural gas demand.

The Commission's estimated final production for January 2009 is 29,185,835 barrels of crude oil and 636,358,693 Mcf (thousand cubic feet) of gas well gas.

The Commission derives final production numbers by multiplying the preliminary January 2009 production totals of 27,350,609 barrels of crude oil and 511,460,129 Mcf of gas well gas by a production adjustment factor of 1.0671 for crude oil and 1.2442 for gas well gas. (These production totals do not include casinghead gas or condensate.)

Texas natural gas storage

reported to the Commission for February 2009 was 303,231,298 Mcf compared to 237,204,302 Mcf in February 2008. The March 2009 gas storage estimate is 300,068,213 Mcf.

The Texas Railroad Commission's Oil and Gas Division set initial April 2009 natural gas production allowables for prorated fields in the state to meet market demand of 16,734,890 Mcf (thousand cubic feet). In setting the initial April 2009 allowables, the Commission used historical production figures from previous months, producers' demand forecasts for the coming month, and adjusted the figures based on well capability. These initial allowables will be adjusted after actual production for April 2009 is reported.

**Classifieds  
Work!  
669-2525**

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Beginner

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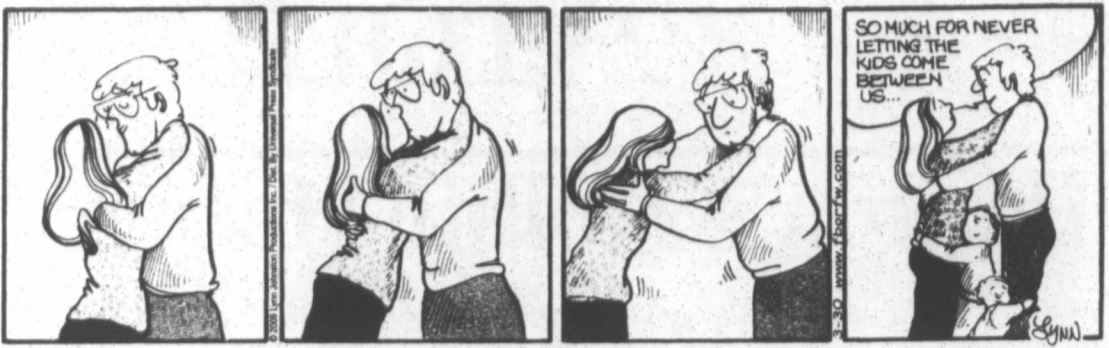
# Comics

Marmaduke



"Beg."

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie

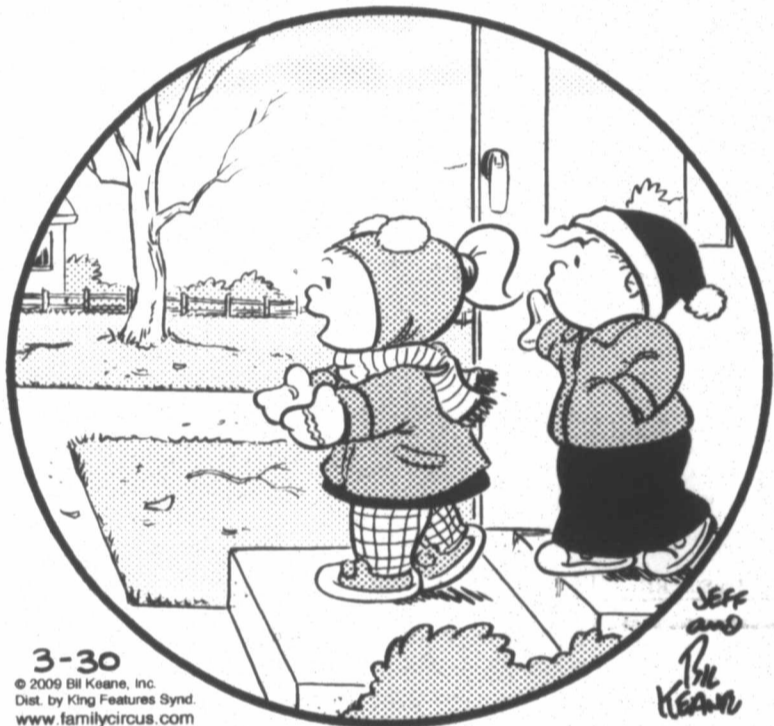


Flo & Friends



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



3-30

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"It was really windy yesterday, but today it's nice and calm."

Daily Crossword Puzzle

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 39 Prominent

1 Hats with pompoms

5 Go by

9 Astronomer's find

10 Like some angles

12 44th president

13 Spin

14 Props for Sweeney Todd

16 Director Burton

17 Swelled heads

18 Geisha garb

21 Daughter's sibling

22 The Terminator, for one

23 Sir, in Delhi

24 New Zealand people

26 Kitten cry

29 Angled golf hole

30 Car with a meter

31 Historic time

32 Sweatshirt variety

34 Fiery crime

37 To any extent

38 TV's O'Donnell

S	T	U	D	S	T	A	B	S	
T	U	B	E	S	P	A	N	I	C
E	N	A	C	T	A	M	I	G	O
P	E	N	A	I	R	M	A	N	
S	U	G	A	R	S	C	A	P	E
P	I	N	T	O	F	A	L	E	
G	E	T	A	T					
B	E	E	R	O	N	T	A	P	
C	E	L	L	P	A	Y	F	O	R
L	A	P	P	E	T	R	O		
A	M	A	Z	E	I	T	A	L	O
M	U	S	I	C	C	O	M	E	T
S	P	O	T	S	W	E	D	S	

Saturday's answer

19	Sacred bird of Egypt	26	Mon-sieur's wife
20	Angry crowd	27	Banished
22	Give a hoot	28	Exert
23	Costa del	29	Cherished
24	Rob of "NUM-B3RS"	30	Add up
25	Tennis star Andre	33	Clumsy ones
		35	Squeak stopper
		36	Tennis court divider

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9					10				11
12					13				
14				15			16		
17				18	19	20			
21				22					
			23						
	24	25				26	27	28	
29						30			
31				32	33				
34			35	36		37			
38						39			
	40					41			

3-30



# Turkey Federation banquet set for April 18

Local Fundraising Banquet a Good Time for a Great Cause

Food, fun, fellowship and fundraising are set as the main events at the 4th annual Hunting Heritage banquet, hosted by Pampa's Top of Texas Longbeard Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation April 18, 2009 at the Chamber of Commerce, 200 N. Ballard St.

Doors open at 6:00 PM and dinner is at 7:30 PM. Come early to relax and enjoy social hour before sitting down for a delicious meal.

The NWTF's Hunting Heritage Banquets raise funds for wild turkey conservation while combining a great meal with a chance to swap stories with other sportsmen and women. They're also a great place to meet new friends who share a passion for the outdoors, win valuable prizes and purchase items unique to the NWTF. By placing the highest bid or winning raffle games, attendees can go home with sporting art, unique hunting firearms, knives, wildlife calls, outdoor equipment and much more.

Tickets to the Pampa Chapter's Hunting Heritage banquet cost just \$60 for couples or \$45 for singles. Banquet attendees receive an NWTF membership while doing great things for wild turkey conservation and the preservation of hunting traditions.

The cost of admission also includes a one-year subscription either to Turkey Call magazine, which includes The Caller, NWTF's member publication; Women In The

Outdoors magazine for novice or experienced outdoorswomen; or Wheelin' Sportsmen magazine for members with disabilities who want to pursue an outdoors lifestyle. A free subscription to JAKES Magazine for youth up to age 12 or Xtreme JAKES Magazine, an interactive online magazine just for teens who enjoy the outdoors and hunting, is included with every ticket purchase. Those who join the NWTF's Hunting Heritage Club receive Get in the Game magazine twice annually.

For only \$250.00 banquet attendees can become Sponsor Members and receive the 2009 NWTF sponsor gift plus a one-year subscription to Turkey Call magazine, Women In The Outdoors magazine or Wheelin' Sportsmen magazine. Reserve a corporate table that seats eight people for only \$1,000. This price includes one sponsor membership and seven regular memberships, plus \$300 worth of raffle tickets and a gun.

The NWTF's 2,350 chapters and nearly half a million members raise money through ticket sales, silent auctions, live auctions and raffles. The money is combined with donations from corporate sponsors and individuals concerned about wildlife conservation.

To join the nation's most progressive single-species conservation organization at this event, reserve tickets by calling Richie or Heather Thompson at 806-669-7032.

For more information about the NWTF, call (800) THE-NWTF or visit

www.nwtf.org.

About the NWTF: In 1973, Tom Rodgers founded the National Wild Turkey Federation in Fredericksburg, Va., as a national 501(c)(3) non-profit conservation and education organization with a mission dedicated to conserving wild turkeys and preserving hunting traditions. Shortly thereafter, Rodgers relocated the NWTF to Edgefield, S.C., where it's still headquartered today.

At the time NWTF was established, there were only 1.3 million wild turkeys. Today that number stands at more than seven million birds throughout North America, thanks to the efforts of state, federal and provincial wildlife agencies, the NWTF and its members and partners.



submitted photo

Community Christian School students are getting ready for their First Annual Appreciation Banquet to be held at 6:30 p.m. March 31, at Briarwood Church. This banquet is to show our appreciation to the community for their wonderful support and to highlight our students. Prospective families are invited to come, for more information please call 665-3393. Students pictured are Jenna Leigh Bonner, Nathan Ohsfeldt, Tyler DeVuyst, Jordan Green, Elise Kennedy, Sarah Gordzeliik, Hannah Nichols and Cheyenne Robinson.

## Women's Chamber honors top Texas women in business

Austin— The Lone Star state and its women business leaders have much to celebrate, even in today's unsteady economic climate. According to information from the U.S. Census Bureau and the Center for Women's Business Research, women-owned businesses in Texas employ more than 1.5 million people and generate \$197 billion annually in sales, ranking Texas second in the nation in terms of the number of women-owned businesses.

Wednesday, April 8, the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Texas will hold its annual Stars Across Texas luncheon to honor the achievements of Texas women business leaders and will announce its 2008 Texas Business Woman of the Year and Blazing Stars winners. These prestigious annual awards have previously honored top business women in Texas from companies such as Curves International, Shell Oil USA, Southwest Airlines and One Minute Manicure. This year's Texas Business Woman of the Year finalists include a celebrated entrepreneur, a visionary educator and a prominent health care corporate executive.

The winners will be revealed live at the luncheon, moderated by Terri Gruca, anchor at Austin's ABC-affiliate KVUE-TV. Celebratory events at the luncheon include a networking reception and a silent auction in support of the Women's Chamber. Attendees will hear the personal stories of Texas business women, encouraging all women to reach their loftiest aspirations and highlighting the economic contributions of women in Texas.

"The interactive, heart-warming format of Stars Across Texas gets attendees inspired, energized and connected to amazing women who blaze their own distinctive paths with innovation, brilliance and passion," said LisaBeth Thomas, Women's Chamber of Commerce of Texas Board Chair. "You hear compelling stories directly, told by the women themselves and their closest confidantes. You learn from real-life experiences — the challenges, victories and values that shaped these women's professional and personal lives. It's not your ordinary awards luncheon."

The Stars Across Texas luncheon will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Austin, with the silent auction starting at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are available for \$60 for members or \$65 for non-member before March 31, and \$70 for members and \$75 for non-members April 1-6. Table sponsorships are also available for \$1,000. To register, please visit <http://www.wcctconnect.com/tboyregister.htm>.

The three finalists for Texas Business Woman of the Year are:

Sue Burnett (Houston), president and founder of Burnett Staffing Specialists

Maria Candelaria Uribe "Candy" Hein (Laredo), vice president for Institutional Advancement at Texas A International University

Linda Hummel-McAlpin (San Antonio), chief executive officer for Humana Inc.'s operations in Central and South Texas

# WANTED 50 PEOPLE

with hearing loss to be "product testers"

"As part of our product study, the leading manufacturers of hearing aids are looking for 50 people who will qualify as product testers to try these new innovative hearing solutions," said Richard Davila, practice administrator of Livingston Hearing Aid Center. "We are proud to participate in this study and will pay each qualified participant \$50 to complete the study."

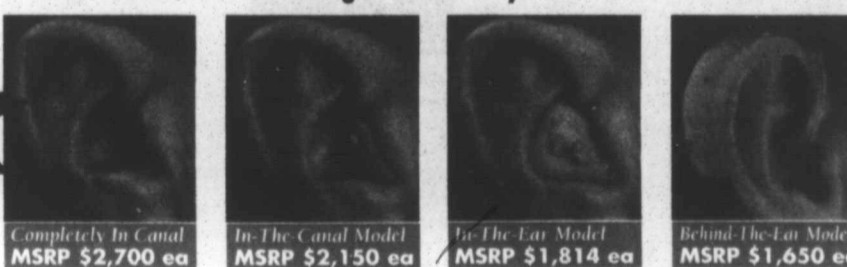
The On-The-Ear product markets itself with very little effort because it solves a really big problem in an innovatively cool way: namely, it corrects high-frequency hearing loss without

plugging-up the ear canal. It lets natural sounds just pass through the ear canal unamplified and gives a high-fidelity boost only to soft speech sounds. Another of the industry's most advanced hearing aids offers clarity, convenience, style and superior performance on every level. It offers a more natural hearing than ever before. It's guaranteed not to whistle or squeal and gives you the ability to hear on the telephone like never before.

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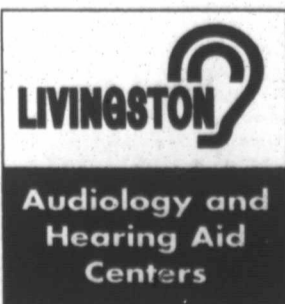
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Doctor of Audiology

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