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SILLY SEASON



staff photo by David Bowser

Joyce Moler (left) and **Marilyn Lewis** were manning the early voting polls today at the Gray County Courthouse for this spring's run-off election. Voting officials said that as of the close of polls on Friday, 343 people had voted last week.

Early ballots lead into Tuesday's run-off

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

The 2010 spring election race is reaching its last furlong, as the ballots are streaming from early voters for Tuesday's run-off election.

Over 250 people took advantage of last week's early voting process, with officials saying that, as of the close of polls Friday, 343 people cast their ballots.

Linda Lewis, joint elections administrator for Gray County said that Thursday and Friday saw the most voter traffic last week with 74 and 85 voters, respectively.

Sixty-two people voted on Monday, with 63 coming in on Tuesday and 59 casting ballots on Wednesday.

Not all precinct polling places will be open on Tuesday. Precincts 1 and 5 will be combined to vote at the First Christian Church at 1633 N. Nelson St. Precinct 2 will vote at the Lovett Library in Pampa, while Precinct 4 will vote at the McLean Lovett Library in McLean.

Precincts 3 and 7 will combine to vote at MK Brown Auditorium, and Precinct 6 will vote at Zion Lutheran, 1200 N. Duncan St.

Precincts 4 and 6 are voting to decide the winner of the Preinct 4 County Commissioner's race between Republicans Jeff Haley and Lynn Allison. During the original March election, Haley received 460 votes (37.1 percent), while Allison followed with 432 (34.8 percent).

Precincts 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7 are voting in the statewide run-off election for the Texas Supreme Court.

Republican Party primary race for Justice of the Texas Supreme Court, Place 3, between Rick Green and Debra Lehmann. Lehmann is currently serving as District Judge of the 360th Judicial District in Fort Worth, while Green is a former Texas House legislator who is presently an attorney in Dripping Springs.

Since the run-offs are Republican races, those who voted in the Democratic Primary are not eligible to take part. Only those who voted in the Republican Primary and those who did not vote in either March primary are eligible to vote in the run-off.

AWEP funds available to local farmers

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

Gray County farmers can get a helping hand watering their crops this season, thanks to the federal government.

Through the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP), the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas is looking to distribute over \$4 million towards aiding farmers and landowners in improving their irrigation systems.

This is the second year for the AWEP, which is aimed towards the conservation of water in the Ogallala Aquifer, an underground water table that stretches from the Panhandle all the way north to South Dakota.

"That's a real big aquifer that we're part of," said John Wimberley, district conservationist with the USDA-NRCS. "It's an important source of water for this region."

Despite the vast size of the aquifer, Wimberley said that there is constant concern over the conservation of its water deposit.

"The thing that really makes it a prime issue is that this water resource has very little recharge," Wimberley said. "What we have to work with is pretty much what we've got."

The concern, Wimberley explained, isn't necessarily about running out of water altogether, but rather about the financial ramifications should the water table become too depleted.

"If the water in the aquifer got too shallow, it will be too cost prohibitive (to extract it)," said Wimberley. "We would have to resort to dry land farming, and that's not a scenario that would be very ideal."

To that end, the government is offering financial aid to farmers towards practices such as installing micro-irrigation or center pivots to replace row-watered irrigation, moves that will help the efficiency of water distribution into fields. The funds are also eligible to be used for replacing existing pivots that are at least 20 years old, converting to newer pivots to increase efficiency, and for repairing leaky concrete underground pipelines.

AWEP cont. on page 3

Tralee 'Expect Respect' event runs all next week

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

Parents, isn't it about time you took your kids out on a date? Wait a minute, what was that again?

It may seem like a weird notion, but that's exactly what the Tralee Crisis Center is encouraging this week with its annual "Expect Respect" parent-child date event set for all next week, April 12 through 16. Parents who contact the Tralee Crisis Center at 669-1131 will receive wristbands for themselves and their children that will entitle them to a 10 percent discount at local restaurants such as The Plaza, Dyer's Barbecue, Cooder's Dixie Cafe and Texas Rose.

The event is aimed at promoting smart dating decisions, one of Tralee's activities during National

Sexual Assault Awareness month. The crisis center encourages opening the lines of communication between parents and kids all week, paving the way for kids to develop good dating habits early and maintain them throughout their youth.

"Parents, set the standard and invite your child out on a date," said Connie Wildcat, primary prevention coordinator for Tralee Crisis Center. "Be a role model by teaching them what to expect while dating and the importance of building a healthy, respectful relationship."

"(The parent-child date) gives

"It gives the parent the opportunity to teach their child how to act on a date and how they should expect to be treated."

— Tralee Crisis Center's Dee Dee Laramore on 'Expect Respect'

the parent the opportunity to teach their child how to act on a date and how they should expect to be treated on a date," added Dee Dee Laramore, Tralee Crisis Center's executive director.

Laramore said that Expect Respect, now in its third year, came about partially because of the increased awareness on dating violence within recent years.

"Dating violence is becoming more and more widely known than

it has been in the past," Laramore said. "We feel like, right from the beginning, we want parents to be able to teach their kids about what should and shouldn't happen on a date, so that if it does happen, the kids can recognize it and say, 'This is less than respectful. This isn't right. This isn't the norm.'"

Laramore acknowledged that the subject of dating can often be an uncomfortable subject for parents

RESPECT cont. on page 3

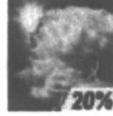
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For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		
High 78 Low 53	High 75 Low 52	High 76 Low 62

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 52. South southeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 78. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. South wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 75. South wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 76. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 52.

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Governor announces \$1 million grant for veterans

HOUSTON — This week, Gov. Rick Perry reiterated Texas' commitment to ensuring military veterans and their families have the support they need, both during and after their deployment. The governor announced the first grant from the Fund for Veterans Assistance, \$1 million for the Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) to help provide veterans and their families emergency assistance with household, vehicle, childcare, medical and personal expenses. "Our veterans have willingly risked great personal harm to secure the rights and freedoms we cherish and to make the world a safer, more secure place to live," Gov. Perry said. "As they serve, or when they return home, they deserve an extra measure of assistance."

The Fund for Veterans Assistance was created by the Legislature to provide grants to local communities to address veterans' needs and enhance or improve existing veterans' assistance programs. The fund is administered by the Texas Veterans Commission, which assists Texas veterans and their families with claims, veterans' employment services and veterans' education. "Gov. Perry continues to demonstrate his concern for the well-being of Texas veterans, and his support of the Texas Veterans Commission's Fund for Veterans Assistance helps us provide much needed assistance to the brave service members and their families through this first grant today and future grants," said Brigadier General Karen Rankin, chair of the Texas Veterans Commission.

The Texas VFW Foundation assists veterans and their families by promoting programs to raise awareness and educate the public about the sacrifices made by America's veterans, as well as the unique and special needs resulting from their service. VFW services include support for families during long deployments, relief in emergency

financial situations, assistance with medical claims related to military service, employment assistance and job training, and scholarships for children of veterans. "This is a historic day for Texas veterans," Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars Adjutant General Ray Grona said. "The Texas VFW Foundation would like to express our appreciation to Gov. Perry, members of the Texas Legislature, especially Sen. Leticia Van De Putte and Rep. Chris Turner, and the Texas Veterans Commission for this grant, which will improve the lives of thousands of our state's veterans."

Veterans and their families in need of assistance can contact the Texas VFW Foundation at 1-800-997-7096.

For more information about the Texas VFW, please visit <http://www.texasvfw.org/>.

Obituaries

Carolyn Jeanette Wardlow, 57

Carolyn Jeanette Wardlow—September 10, 1952 – April 8, 2010

Carolyn Jeanette Wardlow, 57, of Hewitt, passed away Thursday, April 8. Services will be 10 a.m. Monday at Oakwood Cemetery, Waco. Visitation will be 3 – 5 p.m. Sunday at OakCrest Funeral

Home, Waco.

Carolyn was born in Pampa, and lived in Amarillo and Waco. With the unconditional love for our mother and grandmother, may she rest in peace.

Survivors include daughters, Tavela and Amy; five grandchildren, Tia, Brenna, Kobe,

Haven and Ella; great grandchild, Jade; sister, Rhynetha Gay and her children, Shawn and Shawna.



Wardlow

Ruby "Joan" Arnold, 72

Pampa—Ruby "Joan" Arnold, 72, died April 8, 2010 in Pampa.

Services will be at 2:00 p.m. Monday, April 12, 2010, at Carpenter's Church, with Rev. Fred Palmer, pastor, officiating. Cremation will follow the services, with arrangements under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Miss Arnold was born

March 9, 1938 in Shamrock. She had been a resident of Pampa most of her life.

She attended the Pampa Sheltered Workshop. Joan loved to work in the yard and enjoyed singing.

Survivors include her two sisters, Norma Sandefur and Sherry Thomas, both of Pampa; one brother, Johnny Arnold of Pampa; numerous nieces and nephews. Joan was

preceded in death by her parents; and two sisters, Nancy Henderson and Billie Moore.

Memorials may be made to Carpenter's Church, P.O. Box 1476, Pampa, TX 79066-1476.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whitley.com



Arnold

Consumer Alert: Watch for U.S. Census Identity Theft Scams

OFFICE OF THE TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL

With the arrival of April, the 2010 U.S. Census is officially underway. Texans should quickly complete and return the forms to the Census Bureau. When doing so, residents should be cautious of con artists who are using the program as an opportunity to swindle people out of their hard-earned money – and even their identities.

Recently, we heard from a concerned Texan who received a letter that appeared to be a Census form. The recipient said that the form asked for her Social Security number, which she provided on her completed form.

A few days later, the

woman received another Census form – but this form did not ask for her Social Security number. She realized that the first letter was likely a fraudulent attempt to obtain her personal information and steal her identity.

Texans should remember that the official 2010 Census questionnaire asks 10 questions – none of which request personal financial information such as bank or credit card numbers or Social Security numbers.

No official census information will be collected via e-mail, so anyone who receives an e-mail that appears to come from the U.S. Census should be cautious. These are very likely fraudulent e-mails unlaw-

fully seeking recipients' personal information.

In the coming weeks, Census workers will begin walking door-to-door in residential areas in order to verify certain Census information. Participants should always look for identification from Census takers before opening the door and agreeing to provide personal information. Census Bureau employees will be clearly identified with a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice.

Some Texans may receive an American Community Survey, a legitimate questionnaire that collects statistical data for federal and state government programs. Recipients

who have questions about the survey should visit <https://ask.census.gov>.

Texans who think they may have completed and returned fraudulent census forms should immediately take steps to prevent their identities from getting stolen. Victims should file a report with local law enforcement and contact the credit bureaus to secure a fraud alert. They should also visit the attorney general's Web site at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov or call (800) 252-8011 for a copy of the Identity Theft Victim's Kit.

Defense starts in Billy Joe Shaver assault trial

WACO, Texas (AP) — The Waco courthouse has been abuzz as two celebrities are supporting country singer Billy Joe Shaver in his aggravated assault trial.

Country music legend Willie Nelson and actor Robert Duvall were at the courthouse Thursday after being subpoenaed to testify

for the defense.

Nelson has said he talked to Shaver the night of the shooting outside a bar near Waco in 2007.

Shaver's attorneys say he acted in self-defense when he shot Billy Coker in the face because he felt threatened by the man's knife.

On Thursday, Shaver's ex-wife testified as the defense began its case. Wanda Shaver said that Coker was not friendly to her in the bar and became increasingly irritable as the night wore on.

The Grammy-nominated Shaver has recorded more than 20 albums.

LAST MINUTE ADS

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

ALL ABOUT You Salon & Tattoo Studio, 1 Yr. Anniversary Special for month of April. 20% all chemical services! Call Robin Scott 662-4040 or Gracie Dudley 886-1202 for an appointment.

AVENUES SHOWROOM Liquidation Sale stats April 12, 9am-6pm Coronado Center #1B (back corner next to Hastings). Accessories, Fabric, trim, and hardware 50% - 75% off. New hours, location and services will be posted at a later date. Showroom will close April 20. Call Beth Watson 665-0983 for more information.

CERAMIC TILE. Keith Taylor, 874-1779 lv. msg.

CLASSIFIED LINE Ad Specials for Mar., Apr. & May: 4 lines-5 days \$20.50, 6 lines-6 days, \$23.50 (does not include Last Minute ads on pg. 2). Call for deadlines Mon.-Fri. 8-4pm., 669-2525.

COMPUTER SICK? Call Mike, 665-2760.

DONATE USED Eyeglasses to the Lion's Club!! Boxes located at The Pampa News-403 W. Atchison, Drs. Simmons & Simmons-1324 N. Banks and Broome Optical-1916 N. Hobart.

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY will begin picking up ground decorations, April 15th.

FOR RENT see 109 N. Cuyler. 669-3333 or 669-3684.

LITTLE RED Sch. House Roof Fund Raiser-Barn Party. Brisket Dinner \$10 (7 & under free), Music by The Selbys & John Hunter, Auction. Sat. Apr. 24, 6-10pm. Lewis Davis Barn, 3 1/2 mi. north of Pampa on Hwy. 70, 1/2 mi. west on County Line Rd. No Alcohol Please. 665-0123.

ENROLL NOW for Early Head Start/Head Start center or home-based option. Call Grace at 806-671-7485, Jasmin or Amanda at 665-0735 for more information.

NEW ROOMS! Clothing Room at Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ open Tues. April 13, 9-11 a.m. Enter the South double doors on West side of church bldg. on Mary Ellen St.

PAMPA SHRINE Club We Cater!! 50-200 people. (approx 3000 sq ft) available for rent. Weddings, Banquets, Company Parties or Family Reunions. Kitchen facilities avail. at no extra chrg. Call Ben Watson 665-3359 to reserve!

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Lindsey, Ricky Fugitt,
Kevin White
6 - 12 p.m.

April 24
Lindsey, Ricky Fugitt
6 - 11:30 p.m.

Texas Hold'em every Thursday night at 9 p.m.
\$50 Buy In • 1st Place = 34 of buy in, 2nd Place = 14

CELEBRACIÓN



submitted photo
Matachines dancers perform at last year's Cinco de Mayo celebration at Pampa High School. This year's celebration will be from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on May 5 on the school's front lawn.

Valero to clamp down on underage tobacco

AUSTIN — Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott has reached a multi-state agreement with Valero Retail Holdings Inc. and Valero Marketing and Supply Co. to halt the sale of tobacco products to minors. Under the agreement, Valero and its 621 Texas convenience stores will implement comprehensive in-store programs to ensure that minors do not obtain tobacco products.

The Texas settlement, which was filed in Travis County District Court, will impact approximately 1,000 stores in eight states, and almost 4,000 independent, third-party outlets in 38 states where Valero sells its branded fuel. Valero's Texas convenience stores also operate under the names Diamond Shamrock, Beacon, Ultramar, Corner Store and Stop-N-Go.

All Valero-owned stores will implement a comprehensive employee training program to ensure that no minors purchase tobacco products, and compliance with age verification procedures will be considered in connection with employees' compensation. The chain has agreed to phase in a cutting edge electronic age verification system.

AWEP

For producers to qualify for the program, the land must have been irrigated two of the past five years. There are no geographic limitations to the program; any farmers in the county can apply.

A few Gray County farmers took advantage of the program last year, and Wimberley said that the funds they received represented a large financial boost.

"We had three people in the county that we were able to help (last year), and I think that it was big for them," said Wimberley. "Irrigation practices are expensive. A new pivot, you're looking at close to \$75,000 for a quarter-miler.

"With the high cost of repairing those things, any assistance you can get from the government can

be very helpful."

The current funding window for participation in the program is about two weeks, Wimberley said. Anyone interested should contact the NRCS in Pampa as soon as possible. The NRCS can be reached over the phone at 806-665-1751, and their office is located at the Gray County Annex at 12125 East Frederic Ave., Suite B.

cont. from page 1

Respect

and kids to talk about, but said that, as always, Tralee Crisis Center is here to help.

"All of the parents who have signed up so far, we are sending them a packet of information that gives them some talking points," Laramore said.

Laramore added that she was encouraged by the response she has seen from kids since the Expect Respect

event first began.

"Most of the families that we've spoken to, it's the kids that bring it up," Laramore said. "It looks like kids want to spend some family time with their parents and that it's something that they do want to talk about.

"That's good to see. It's important for parents and kids to be able to share."

cont. from page 1

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9

Served Monday - Saturday

Pa+MPA

Pampa ISD Events for the Week of April 12 - 17

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

April 15—Kindergarten FAIR
 Chamber of Commerce • 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Pampa High School
 April 12 • Student Council Meeting • 7:30 p.m.
 April 13 • Student Body Elections
 April 14 • Report Cards
 April 14 • UIL Band Concert & Sight Reading Concert
 April 15 • Woeman Contest • 7 p.m.

Pampa Learning Center
 April 14 • Open House and Parent/Teacher Conferences

Pampa Jr. High
 April 13 • Casual Picture Day
 April 15 • Fine Arts Community Concert • 9 a.m.
 April 15 • Report Cards
 April 16 • 8th Grade Fundraiser Dance

Austin Elementary
 April 13 • 1st - 4th Grade PAAS Field Trip
 April 14 • 5th Grade PAAS Field Trip
 April 15 • 4th and 5th Grade to Presidio at MK Brown
 April 16 • 3rd Grade to White Deer Land Museum
 April 16 • Report Card Day

Travis Elementary
 April 13 • PAAS 1st - 4th Grade Field Trip High Plains Museum
 April 14 • PAAS 5th Grade Field Trip High Plains Museum
 April 16 • 5th Grade to Palo Duro Canyon
 April 16 • Spirit Table • 7:30 p.m.
 April 16 • Award Assembly • 8:15 a.m.

Wilson Elementary
 April 13 • Booster Club Meeting • 6 p.m. • Library
 April 16 • Volunteer Luncheon • 12 p.m.

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

APRIL

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- *Free Laminate Pad
- *Free Grout with Tile
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Saturday, April 10, the 100th day of 2010. There are 265 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 10, 1912, the RMS Titanic set sail from Southampton, England, on its ill-fated maiden voyage.

On this date:

In 1790, President George Washington signed into law the first United States Patent Act.

In 1866, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was incorporated.

In 1925, the novel "The Great Gatsby," by F. Scott Fitzgerald, was first published.

In 1932, German president Paul Von Hindenburg was re-elected in a runoff, with Adolf Hitler coming in second.

In 1957, Egypt reopened the Suez Canal to all shipping traffic. (The canal had been closed due to wreckage resulting from the Suez Crisis.)

In 1959, the future emperor of Japan, Crown Prince Akihito, married a commoner, Michiko Shoda.

In 1963, the nuclear-powered submarine USS Thresher sank during deep-diving tests off Cape Cod, Mass., in a disaster that claimed 129 lives.

In 1972, the United States and the Soviet Union joined some 70 nations in signing an agreement banning biological warfare.

In 1978, Arkady Shevchenko, a high-ranking Soviet citizen employed by the United Nations, sought political asylum in the United States.

In 1998, the Northern Ireland peace talks concluded as negotiators reached a landmark settlement to end 30 years of bitter rivalries and bloody attacks.

Ten years ago: The Washington Post won three Pulitzer Prizes, including the public service award for the second year in a row; The Wall Street Journal took two honors, and The Associated Press won for investigative reporting on the killing of Korean civilians by U.S. troops at the start of the Korean War. South Korea and North Korea announced a June date for their first summit since the peninsula was divided in 1945. Actor Larry Linville, one of the stars of the situation comedy "M-A-S-H," died in New York at age 60.

Five years ago: Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon arrived in Texas to meet with President George W. Bush. Tiger Woods won his fourth Masters with a spectacular finish of birdies and bogeys.

One year ago: Police in Tracy, Calif. arrested Sunday school teacher Melissa Huckaby in connection with the death of 8-year-old Sandra Cantu, whose body had been found in a suitcase. French Navy commandos stormed a sailboat held by pirates off the Somali coast, freeing four hostages; however, one hostage was killed in the operation.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Harry Morgan is 95. Actor Max von Sydow is 81. Actress Liz Sheridan is 81. Actor Omar Sharif is 78. Sportscaster John Madden is 74. Rhythm-and-blues singer Bobbie Smith (The Spinners) is 74. Sportscaster Don Meredith is 72. Reggae artist Bunny Wailer is 63. Actor Steven Seagal is 59. Folk-pop singer Terre Roche (The Roches) is 57. Actor Peter MacNicol is 56. Rock musician Steven Gustafson (10,000 Maniacs) is 53. Singer-producer Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds is 52. Rock singer-musician Brian Setzer is 51. Rapper Afrika Bambaataa is 50. Rock singer Katrina Leskanich is 50. Actor Jeb Adams is 49. Olympic gold medal speedskater Cathy Turner is 48. Rock musician Tim "Herb" Alexander is 45. Actor-comedian Orlando Jones is 42. Rock musician Mike Mushok (Staind) is 41. Singer Kenny Lattimore is 40. Rapper Q-Tip (AKA Kamaal) is 40. Blues singer Shemekia Copeland is 31. Actress Laura Bell Bundy is 29. Actress Chyler Leigh is 28. Actor Ryan Merriman is 27. Singer Mandy Moore is 26. Actor Haley Joel Osment is 22. Actress-singer AJ (AKA Amanda) Michalka (mish-AL'-kah) is 19.

Thought for Today:

"What is more unwise than to mistake uncertainty for certainty, falsehood for truth?" — Cicero, Roman orator, statesman and philosopher (106-43 B.C.)

DA claims Texas judge has death penalty bias

HOUSTON (AP) — A Texas judge who declared during a capital murder case that the death penalty is unconstitutional but later rescinded his ruling has refused a request by prosecutors to remove himself from the case.

The Harris County District Attorney's Office has asked to have state District Judge Kevin Fine removed from the case, accusing him of being biased against capital punishment, said Donna Hawkins, a spokeswoman for the office. District Judge Olen Underwood, who presides over the judicial region that includes Harris County, will set a hearing on the request, she said.

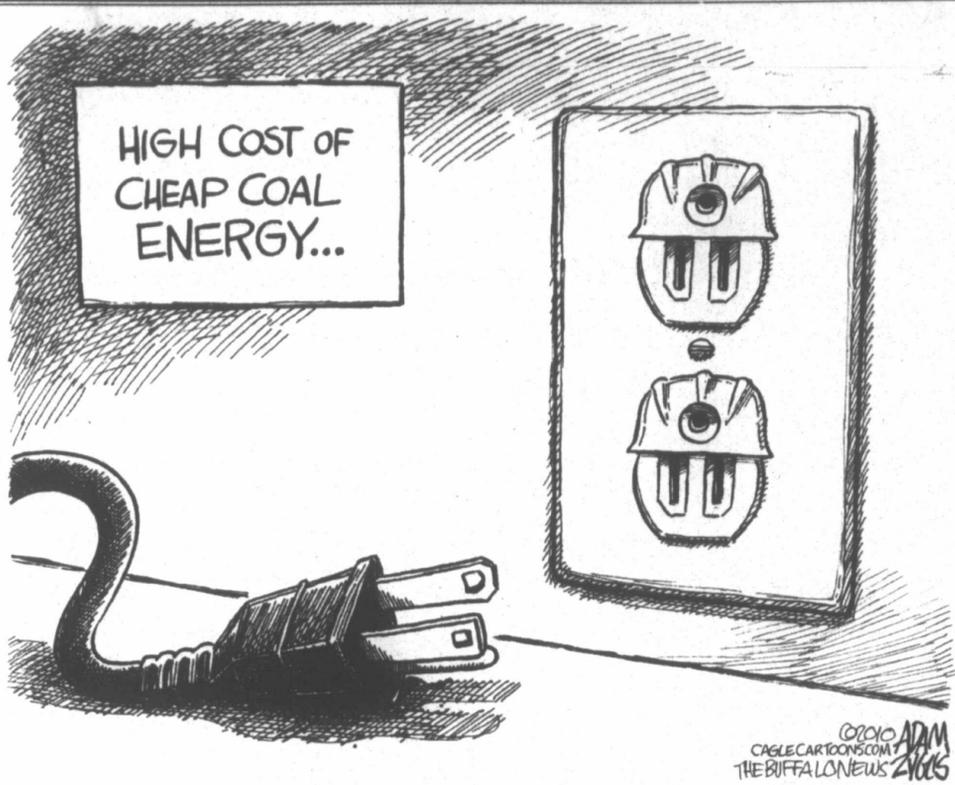
Vickie Long, Fine's court coordinator, said Friday the judge would not be commenting on the district attorney's request.

Fine, in ruling last month the Texas death penalty statute is unconstitutional, said it is safe to assume innocent people have been executed. He also questioned whether society, considering the recent history of death row inmate exonerations, can continue to ignore this reality.

The judge later rescinded his ruling, which he made in granting a pretrial motion in a capital murder case. But he then scheduled a hearing for the end of this month to hear evidence on the issue. That hearing is now on hold.

Fine's ruling was lauded by anti-death penalty groups and criticized by many elected officials, including Gov. Rick Perry.

Fine, a Democrat, is a judge in Harris County, which sends more inmates to death row than any other county in the nation. Texas has carried out more executions than any other U.S. state.



We all deserve answers about the Appliance Rebate Program

SUSAN COMBS
Texas Comptroller

It is not acceptable that thousands of Texans spent hours trying to reserve appliance rebates on Wednesday, April 7, only to be met with dropped calls and an unavailable online reservation system. It is not acceptable to me or the many Comptroller employees who worked diligently to ensure mechanisms were in place to accommodate the extremely high demand we expected. And it certainly isn't acceptable to the citizens of our state. We all deserve real answers.

With high-value rebates, a large population and limited funds, we knew not everyone interested in the program would be able to reserve rebates. We closely watched similar rebate programs in other states. Within days of seeing the experiences of Iowa and Minnesota, whose systems were overloaded, we were on the phone requiring increased safeguards from Helgeson Enterprises, the company contracted through a competitive bid process to manage our rebate fulfillment. We accurately projected the estimated traffic we thought we would receive in the first few hours. We looked closely at the contractor's system bandwidth and infrastructure. We provided clear steps they needed to take at a minimum to prepare for Texas.

On our end, we immediately recognized the need to create our own Web front door for the contractor's online system to provide program information and updates. We took the steps needed to handle millions of hits concurrently

to our Texas Powerful Smart site at www.TexasPowerfulSmart.org. We did it right, and our Web front door handled about 40 million hits in less than 12 hours without fail. This allowed us to provide real-time updates about the contractor's system and direct people to our e-mail subscription service and Twitter feed for updates to keep them informed of rebates remaining and other important details.

Prior to April 7, at our request, the contractor did a test run of their system and stated that the online reservation system should be able to handle 25,000 users at a time. The wait time for those trying to access the system online was estimated by the contractor at three minutes. Dropped calls were never acceptable to us, and no one should have been kicked out in the middle of an online reservation.

However, problems with their online reservation system began immediately. With their online system unavailable, the phones were completely overloaded. Our agency took thousands of calls as well. Through a conference call on early Wednesday morning, we demanded updates from our contractor on the system status so we could pass along this information via our site and other communication channels.

By mid-morning, the contractor reported their system may have been affected by a Web attack, which consumed about 75 percent of their capacity.

The online reservation system was brought back online at 12:15 p.m., and reservations started flooding in. Just after 2 p.m., all rebate reservations

were taken, and the waitlist was opened. It filled by 6 p.m. However, many still reported problems with the system.

To the thousands of frustrated Texans who experienced problems: we are as mad as you are. We are gathering information to identify the full scope of the problem. We have received feedback from more than 15,000 of you, and we are taking action.

Before the end of the day on Wednesday, we sent a letter to Thomas Helgeson, president of Helgeson Enterprises, expressing our dissatisfaction with the company's performance and request-

ing specific sets of data that will help us determine whether the company is meeting its contractual obligations for items such as Web site uptime and answer time for phone calls. We also requested a specific description of the steps Helgeson is taking to avoid additional problems with rebate fulfillment.

Not one dollar has been paid to Helgeson. Payment is based on the number of rebate claims processed. This means no payment to Helgeson will be made until Helgeson begins to issue rebate checks to Texans, and we have a team actively monitoring this entire process.

THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065
806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348
Fax: 806-669-2520

Randall Pribble
Publisher

rpribble@thepampanews.com

ReDonn Woods
Advertising Manager

woods@thepampanews.com

Arnie Aurellano
Editor

editor@thepampanews.com

Sue Pribble
Advertising Representative

spribble@thepampanews.com

David Bowser
Reporter

dbowser@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor
Classified Advertising

classified@thepampanews.com

Andrew Glover
Reporter

aglover@thepampanews.com

Kera Kent
Circulation

circulation@thepampanews.com

Marcus Elkins
Press Supervisor

press@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair
Accounting

bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Chico Ramirez
Circulation Supervisor

circulation@thepampanews.com

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MEMBER 2010
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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- 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.
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Achoo! Pollen at its worst in years in many areas

(AP) — Pollen: It's on your car, in the air and especially in your sinuses.

From Florida to Texas to Colorado, 2010 is shaping up to be a monster of an allergy season. The words "pollen" and "allergy" are among the top 10 trending topics on Twitter in several U.S. cities. Everywhere, it seems, is covered in a fine yellow dust that irritates our lives. Experts say it's the worst they've seen in years in many areas.

"It's wicked bad this year," said Dr. Mona Mangat, an allergy specialist in St. Petersburg, Fla., who can't recall a worse year in the six she's worked there. "We're just overwhelmed with patients right now. We're double- and triple-booked with new patients, trying to work people in because we know how much people are suffering."

This year is especially bad in the Southeast, weather experts say, likely due to winter's unseasonably cold weather.

"That may have helped delay some of the plants from blooming as early as they may have want-

ed to," said John Feerick, senior meteorologist at AccuWeather. "It's the fact that everything is coming out all at once."

High winds in some areas also spread the misery.

"We had a perfect storm this year," said Dr. William Storms, professor at University of Colorado and a clinician. "It's the worst I've seen in 10 years."

It's enough to bring some to tears. Take 5-year-old Sam Wilson of St. Petersburg. His mom gives him Claritin in the morning, Nasonex and Benadryl at night, and he receives four allergy shots every week. The sidewalks of his hometown are covered in what look like piles of dried, brown worms — but they are mounds of oak tree pollen.

His mother said that when the pollen is at its worst, the boy's eyes water and itch, he can't breathe through his nose and his throat burns.

"His reaction yesterday was pretty bad," said his mother, 34-year-old Joannia Wilson on Thursday. "He couldn't breathe, he was completely congested, and

crying."

Oak trees are the culprit in many places in the Southeast.

The trees produce 3,000 to 6,000 pollen particles per cubic meter; it only takes 10 particles to trigger an allergic reaction.

Angel Waldron, a spokeswoman for the Washington, D.C.-based Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, said that allergy seasons have been getting longer over the years, with six to eight weeks of suffering expected this year in some areas.

"When your car is green when you wake up in the morning, it's shocking," she said.

Waldron's group compiles a list each year of most challenging places to live for allergy and asthma sufferers. Topping the list: Knoxville, Tenn., followed by Louisville, Ky.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Dayton, Ohio; and Charlotte, N.C.

"We rank them based on pollen counts, number of medicines used, both prescription and over the counter, and number of

POLLEN cont. on page 6



photo by Joe Weaver, Pampa Chamber of Commerce

Communication Connection held a "Business After Hours" Thursday evening at the company offices at 1541 N. Hobart Street. The event was part of an ongoing Chamber of Commerce program designed to get local business people together in an informal atmosphere. The staff of Communication Connection includes (from left) Isset Solis, sales associate, Virginia Aguero, sales associate, Misty Auwen, store manager, Sherry Parks, account manager, Michael Loftus, sales manager, Kerry Symons, owner, Bryce Hale, general manager.

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips



DEAR ABBY: This is a time when high school seniors visit prospective colleges. Could you please convey the following suggestions to them?

1. Wear comfortable shoes. You will be doing an awful lot of walking.
2. Come prepared for the weather. Twelve hundred people attended a recruiting session today, and at least one-fourth of them did not come with umbrellas. A thunderstorm began at 4:00 p.m., and they wondered why we didn't provide umbrellas!
3. Come with a list of questions and bring something to write on, plus a tote bag to carry any materials you receive.
4. Read the materials you were sent. If they say check-in begins at 8:00 a.m., then plan to be there at 8:00 a.m.
5. You will be receiving a lot of information, so you should plan on making a return trip to the two or three institutions you visited that you liked the most.
6. We will show you one or two residence hall rooms. We cannot show you all of the halls. In order to inspect them all, you will need to come on a Residence Hall Open House day.

Thank you, Abby.
— DEBBIE IN ADMISSIONS

DEAR DEBBIE: On the contrary — thank YOU for a "tip sheet" every college-bound senior should see. Better to be prepared than be without.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a junior in high school, and I'm worried about my friend, "Elizabeth." She

has always been a Type-A overachiever, but for the past year and a half, she has been more stressed than usual.

School consumes Elizabeth, but not in a good way. She stays up until 3 a.m. cramming for tests even though she studies for several days before. She gets angry and depressed when she doesn't get an A on an assignment. She puts a lot of pressure on herself, and her parents don't seem to recognize it.

My friend doesn't sleep much and eats very little. At first, I told myself that I was overreacting by worrying about her. However, last night she was hospitalized for exhaustion and anemia. She's fine now,

but the stress and unhealthy habits have caught up with her. I'm afraid she'll go right back to her detrimental lifestyle.

I believe Elizabeth needs help and I'm thinking of talking to a guidance counselor. What should I do, Abby? — DISTRESSED IN KANSAS CITY

DEAR DISTRESSED: You are a good and caring friend. Talk to the guidance counselor. Your friend's sleeplessness, stress, anemia and poor diet may come from more than pressuring herself to achieve good grades. She may need professional help — and the guidance counselor may be able to see that she gets it.

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Run-off Election April 13th

Gray County Commissioner Precinct 4

VOTE for EXPERIENCE

Lynn Allison is a Pampa businessman with 30 years of experience serving & supporting the community. Lynn & his brother Bill operate Bill Allison Auto Sales.

VOTE for COMMITMENT

- Lynn Allison has proven long term commitment to serving the community:
- Has been married 32 years and raised two daughters
 - Served as a deacon for over 20 years

- Member of Kiwanis Club for over 20 years
- Volunteer for Meals on Wheels for 17 years
- Serves as a Chamber of Commerce Gold Coat
- Board of Directors for the Gray County Appraisal District

VOTE LYNN ALLISON

For Gray County Commissioner Precinct 4

Election Day Party

April 13th from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Bill Allison Auto Sales (1200 N. Hobart)

Political ad paid for by: Lynn Allison Campaign, Mrs. Lynn Allison, Treasurer,
1911 Grape, Pampa, TX 79065 (806) 669-3848

Drug war informant freed from N.Y. jail

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — A former Mexican police officer who became a drug informant for the United States has been freed from federal detention after fending off government efforts to deport him.

A Justice Department immigration board last month ruled Guillermo "Lalo" Ramirez Peyro should not be returned to Mexico because he would be tortured "either directly by government agents or indirectly by government agents turning him over to the cartel."

Ramirez, who had been in custody for nearly six years, was released late Thursday from a federal detention center in Batavia, outside Buffalo, attorney Steven Cohen said.

Cohen had made arrangements for Ramirez to live in western New York while he applied for a green card, saying it would be safer for the informant who helped put 60 violent people behind bars while infiltrating the violent Juarez drug cartel for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Instead, over the lawyer's objections, Ramirez was immediately flown out of state.

"A lot of people want him dead," Cohen said Friday. "He's out; he's free. He's at

an address where he's not particularly safe."

Ramirez's career as an informant ended in 2004 after the discovery of a mass grave outside a middle-class Juarez home that became known as the "House of Death." The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration said Ramirez had supervised the murder of a Juarez cartel associate and participated in a series of other murders.

Ramirez denies killing anyone but acknowledges being present during killings to maintain his cover. His attorney said that he tried to prevent deaths by informing U.S. authorities when they were to occur but that the U.S. failed to intervene.

"There's very disturbing inaction on their part," said Cohen, who became involved in the case a month ago.

The former head of the DEA office in El Paso, Texas, said Friday that Ramirez's release should not stop investigators from determining whether the Juarez killings could have been prevented. Sandalio Gonzalez raised questions about Ramirez and his ICE handlers in 2004 after two of his agents were targeted by the cartel and had to evacuate Juarez, across the Rio Grande from El Paso.



submitted photo

Members of Pampa's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1657 will be serving children meals every Thursday night during April. The program at Briarwood Gospel Church's "Kid's Cafe" provides the dinners for approximately 150 to 180 people from the community. Among the VFW members helping out this month are (seated, from left) Bobby Ragen and Charlie Martin, (standing from left) Tommy Hester, George Poole, Dannie Miller, Claton Locke, Terry Pittman, Alvin Johnson and George Collingsworth.

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Advanced

To the Voters of Precinct 4:

Please vote for **Jeff Haley** for a Conservative, commonsense approach to Gray County Government.

(If you did not vote or if you voted in the Republican Primary you can vote in the runoff election.)

James Hefley

Pol. Ad. Pd. for by James Hefley PO Box 42, McLean, TX 2520

Pollen

specialists in the area," she said.

J.P. Levins, executive Web producer for the site pollen.com, said he's received a lot of e-mails from suffering Floridians — but he expects more complaints from other parts of the U.S. soon.

"The season is actually

cont. from page 5

just picking up," he said, adding that most of the country is facing high pollen counts.

Tree pollen season should subside within a few weeks, but experts say some will continue to suffer because grass and weed allergies rise in the summer months.

Jeff Haley

For Gray County Commissioner Precinct 4

I am asking for your vote on April 13. Good government begins at the local level.

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To all Precinct 4 Residents
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The County's Business Budgets & Contracts
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Election April 13th**

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Longtime legislators threatened in Texas runoff

BY APRIL CASTRO
AND JAY ROOT
Associated Press Writers

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Lyndon Johnson was in the White House when Delwin Jones was first sworn in as a freshman member of the Texas House of Representatives. Since then, he's been defeated by a fellow Democrat, switched parties to become a Republican, been appointed to powerful committee jobs and also lost them.

One thing that's never changed is his taste for elected office. On Tuesday, the oldest member of the Legislature — at 86 — is asking West Texans to send him back for another two-year term.

Jones is one of three longtime House incumbents whose careers are on the line in Texas runoff elections that will shape the November elections. All told, nine legislative races, seven congressional seats, a statewide Supreme Court race and an open spot on the State Board of Education that are up for grabs.

Most candidates in state races, including Gov. Rick Perry, won their primaries March 2. But in contests where no candidate got at least half the votes, the runoffs will settle things between the top two finishers.

First elected in 1964, Jones lost in 1972 to cotton farmer Pete Laney, a Democrat who would later become speaker of the House. Laney then made Jones, who was re-elected in 1988 as a Republican, one of his top committee chairmen. Jones fell out of favor with Republican leaders when Laney left the speaker's job in 2003, but he played a kingmaker role in 2009 by helping elect current Speaker Joe Straus, R-San Antonio.

These days, Jones stills drives around his five-county district in a 1995 Buick Le Sabre. Over his career, the Lubbock businessman figures he's handed out at least 800,000 emery boards — his favorite campaign giveaway — and usually is up by 5:30 a.m. heading to some cafe to chat with voters.

His opponent, accountant

Charles Perry, is a tea party conservative who surprised observers by making the runoff in a three-way race. Jones said the anti-incumbent tea party wave has been an "undercurrent" in his race, but he thinks his longevity will play to his advantage.

"I've got a lifetime of identity, and he's got to develop an identity," Jones said. "I would hope my identity will prevail."

Perry, 48, said Jones is out of step with the conservative district and predicted the same activists who are angry at the Obama administration will carry him to Austin.

"Politics as usual seems to be on its last leg," Perry said.

Meanwhile, Democratic Rep. Norma Chavez is fighting for her seat in a nasty runoff campaign marked by personal insinuations and accusations that each Democrat is more Republican than the other.

Democrat Naomi Gonzalez has received at least \$276,000 in contributions from typically GOP donors to defeat Chavez, a 14-year veteran of the state House, according to the Texas Ethics Commission. Chavez, 49, twice suggested in public forums that Gonzalez is a lesbian.

The comments prompted public outrage among local Democratic and county officials, and Chavez later said she should not have made her opponent's sexual orientation an issue. Gonzalez said Chavez' comments were just a desperate attempt to deflect attention from her own shortcomings.

A third incumbent, Rep. Fred Brown, R-College Station, faces Republican runoff opponent Gerald "Buddy" Winn, a former Brazos County tax assessor-collector.

Six other races feature Republicans duking it out. In a closely watched race in a Round Rock swing district, longtime Republican operative and engineer John Gordon is engaged in an increasingly bitter contest with graphic designer Larry Gonzales.

Gonzales has run TV ads casting Gordon as a hothead who doesn't belong in the House. The ads feature video of an angry Gordon ranting at a police officer during a traffic

stop, and it refers to a 1994 incident in which Gordon was arrested for trying to forcibly remove a wheel-blocking boot from his car.

The ad's footage includes audio of Gordon at the traffic stop, in which his wife was pulled over for failing to use her turn signal. He became so irate that a police officer called for backup. The officer can be heard saying he would arrest Gordon if he got out of the vehicle.

The Gordon-Gonzales winner will face Diana Maldonado, narrow 2008 win gave the Democrats a hard-

fought edge that Republicans want back.

In congressional runoffs, candidates hoping to challenge incumbents are squaring off in seven races — six among Republicans and one among Democrats.

In one of the most closely watched races, Republicans Bill Flores and Robert Curmuck emerged from a crowded field and are fighting for a shot at Chet Edwards. The Democratic incumbent resides in one of the most Republican-leaning congressional districts in the country and includes George W. Bush's Crawford

ranch.

Elsewhere, the conservative faction of the State Board of Education has lined up behind activist Brian Russell, a home schooler, in the race to replace resigning Republican Cynthia Dunbar. Several high-profile Republicans have endorsed Marsha Farney, a former educator who calls herself the "common sense conservative."

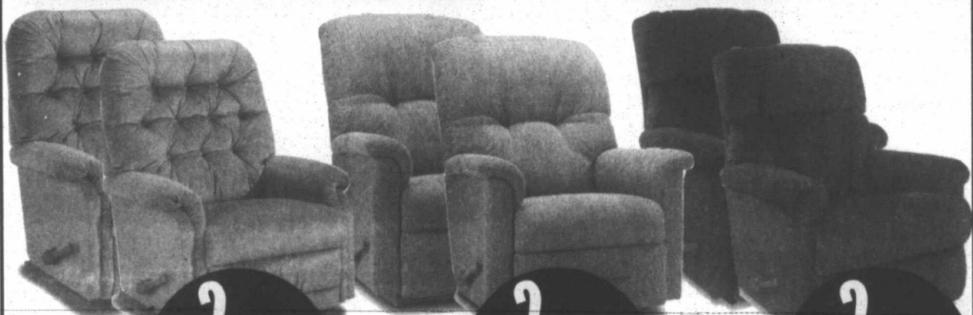
Farney, who has three children in public schools, has been critical of Russell for rejecting public education for his children.

There is only one runoff

for statewide office. Former state Rep. Rick Green faces Debra Lehmann for the state Supreme Court seat being vacated by Judge Harriet O'Neill.

Lehmann has pulled in high-profile endorsements from top Republicans, including former Chief Justice Tom and former U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales. Green is casting himself as a hard-core conservative everyman who promises to bring what he considers a badly needed dose of normalcy to the court.

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Perry urges Republicans to say 'no' to everything

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Texas Gov. Rick Perry says Republican congressional candidates must say "no" — no to President Barack Obama, and no to anything that makes Washington relevant to the American people.

Perry is among a flock of potential GOP presidential candidates addressing the three-day Southern Republican Leadership Conference. He bills himself as a principled, small-government conserva-

tive. Perry did not tip his hand about 2012, but had this to say Friday about November's congressional elections: "It's going to take men and women going to Washington, D.C., and saying no."

He said GOP candidates should tell voters, "Elect me and I'm going to Washington, D.C. and will try to make it as inconsequential on your life as I can make it."

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Community



Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Ferris

Couple wed Feb. 6

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Ferris were married February 6, 2010 at First Baptist Church in Pampa, Texas, with Pastor Johnny Funderburg presiding over the ceremony.

The parents of the couple are Wanda Armstrong, Clessie and the late M.B. Ferris, all of Pampa, Texas, and Roger and Lois Armstrong of Rutledge, Tennessee.

Standing with the bride was her maid of honor and daughter-in-law, Aleksandra Kilhoffer.

Best man Ed Perkins stood with the groom.

Ushers were Jonathan and

Jason Kilhoffer, sons of the bride.

A registering guest was Tanya Norris. The flower girl was Breanna Burton. The ring bearer was Keegan.

Servers included Shanda Shaub, Cameron Shaub, and Lisa Shaub.

The newlywed couple enjoyed a reception at First Baptist Church's Fellowship Hall after the ceremony, and celebrated their honeymoon at Disney World.

They plan to make their home in Pampa, Texas.

Menus

Pampa Meals on Wheels

Monday, April 12
Steak Fingers/ Gravy
Broccoli Casserole
Carrots
Pears

Tuesday, April 13
Turkey
Rice Pilaf
English Peas
Sweet Potatoes
Plum

Wednesday, April 14
Hamburger Patties
Mashed Potatoes
Pinto Beans
Cornbread
Peaches

Thursday, April 15
Oven-Fried Chicken
Corn
Baked Potatoes
Pudding

Friday, April 16
Baked Fish
Rice Pilaf
Garlic Bread
Green Beans
Apricots

Pampa Senior Citizens Inc.

Monday, April 12
Chicken Fried Steak or Chicken & Dumplings
Mashed Potatoes
Spinach
Beets
Northern Beans
Cole Slaw
Tossed Salad
Jello Salad
German Chocolate Cake or Vanilla Pudding Cups
Hot Rolls or Cornbread

Tuesday, April 13
Baked Chicken Breasts/
Stuffing

or Ham/ Fruit Sauce
Yams
Green Beans
Creme Corn
Pinto Beans
Cole Slaw
Tossed Salad
Jello Salad
Boston Creme Pie or Chocolate Sundae
Cups
Hot Rolls or Cornbread

Wednesday, April 14
Roast Beef Brisket/
Brown Gravy
or Cook's Choice
Mashed Potatoes
Steamed Veggies
Fried Squash
Beans
Cole Slaw
Tossed Salad
Jello Salad
Strawberry Shortcake or Peach Cobbler
Hot Rolls or Cornbread

Thursday, April 15
Chicken Strips
or Salisbury Steak Au Jus
Sour Cream Potatoes
Carrots
Peas
Beans
Cole Slaw
Tossed Salad
Jello Salad
Pineapple Cake or Lemon Pie
Hot Rolls or Cornbread

Friday, April 16
Catfish & Hushpuppies or Tamales/Chili
Cheese Potato Wedges
Spanish Rice
Beans
Cole Slaw
Tossed Salad
Jello Salad Chocolate
Chewy Brownies or Tapioca Cups
Garlic Breadsticks
Hot Rolls or Cornbread

Spring for it!
You won't find a better deal this season -
That's our promise!



Steven Gortmaker and Lindsey Martin

Martin-Gortmaker to wed

Mr. and Mrs. Billy R. Martin of Columbia, S.C., announce the engagement of their daughter, Lindsey Brooke Martin of Columbia, S.C., to Steven R. Gortmaker of Knoxville, Tenn., son of Mr. and Mrs. Garry R. Gortmaker of White Deer.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Irmo High School and Winthrop University where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. She is employed as a Research Analyst II at the South

Carolina Employment Security Commission. The groom-to-be is a graduate of White Deer High School and the University of Oklahoma where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Sport Sciences. He is employed as the Associate Director of Football Strength and Conditioning for the University of Tennessee.

The wedding is planned for May 8, 2010 at Riverland Hills Baptist Church in Irmo, S.C.

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Sports

No. 5 Randall routes Harvesters, run-rule invoked

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

There was beautiful weather at Harvester Field for Friday's game against the fifth ranked Randall Raiders. The game, though, was a different story for the Pampa Harvesters, as they lost 18-1 with the ten-run rule invoked after the fifth inning.

Head Coach Kaleb Snelgrooves said Randall is a good team and falling behind early didn't help his team.

"They're (Randall) all seniors and they hit the ball well," Snelgrooves said. "We didn't help ourselves out by walking and hitting guys and they hit a couple of home runs. They're very good."

The Harvesters allowed a run in every inning. In the top of the first, the first four batters reached base. Corey Kirkland and Chance Harlan scored the first runs of the game on a double by Dex Kjerstad. The inning would quickly end as Kjerstad was thrown out on a fielder's choice. Patrick Esposito flied into a double play to end the inning.

Pampa responded in their half of the first. Mitchell Killgo and Braden Hunt reached base on walks with two outs. Collin Killgo hit a single to right, to score his brother Mitchell. That would be as close as Pampa would get to the Raiders, as the inning ended with the Harvesters down 2-1.

In the second inning, Randall sent 10 batters to

the plate and scored five runs on four hits. Zach Constancio scored on a single by Taylor English. Iszac Valdez and English scored on an error. Harlan scored on a bases loaded walk by Taylor Marks and Kjerstad scored on a sacrifice fly. Constancio struck out to end the inning but not before Randall opened a 7-1 lead. The second would be Collin Killgo's last as he allowed seven runs on six hits, walked one, hit two and struck out one.

The Harvesters only hit a single in the second. Moreno struck out the first two batters of the inning. After Zach Murray reached with a single, Reid Miller flied out to right to end the inning. In the two innings Moreno pitched, he allowed one run on two hits, walked two and struck out four to earn the win.

Pampa went to a new pitcher in the third with Braden Hunt, but didn't get any better results. The Raiders continued where they left off, sending all nine batters to the plate and scored five more runs to take a commanding 12-1 lead. Valdez welcomed the new pitcher by hitting a home run to center. English followed with a walk and scored on a one-out home run by Harlan. Kjerstad walked and Nolan Hoskins singled. Both of them would score on an error by the shortstop. Snelgrooves said errors have been the story of their season.

"We give guys extra

bases," Snelgrooves said. "Every time we do that they hit the ball and that's an RBI every time."

Hunt only last a third of an inning, and allowed five runs on three hits and walked two. Tyler Malone finished the third getting a fly out and a strikeout.

Eric Birtcel replaced Moreno and only allowed one hit, which was a lead-off double by Anthony Allen. Pampa's next three batters struck out, flied out and grounded out. In the top of the fourth, Randall got to Pampa reliever Tyler Malone. The Raiders put up five more runs on four hits and walked once. Valdez hit his second home run of the game just right of where he hit his first one. Adding to the scoring in the fourth, was Harlan with an RBI double scoring English. Marks scored Kirkland when he grounded out. Harlan and Hoskins scored on an error by the shortstop to round out the scoring in the fourth.

In one and two thirds of an inning pitched, Malone allowed five runs on four hits, walked one, hit one batter and struck out two. Mitch Simon pitched the last inning and allowed one run on one hit and walked one.

Randall scored one more run in the fifth, which would be the final inning as the ten-run rule was invoked after the bottom half of the inning. Pampa only got a single after the third inning and didn't reach second base in the



staff photo by Andrew Glover
Anthony Allen slides into third on a sacrifice fly in the third inning against the No. 5 Randall Raiders Friday at Harvester Field. The Harvesters lost 18-1.

final two innings.

Murray was the leading hitter for the Harvesters, as he went two-for-two. Allen was one-for-three with a double, and Collin Killgo was one-for-two, with a RBI single. Snelgrooves said he was pleased with how Murray and Allen hit the ball.

"Zach Murray is a kid that hangs around and stays positive," Snelgrooves said. "Got a chance to get in the game and did some things, couldn't be more happy

for him. Anthony Allen has caught a great district season for us. You got to see him get a long double early. Couldn't be more happy for those kids."

The Harvesters (6-15, 1-6) visit Palo Duro 5 p.m. Tuesday. The Raiders (21-3-1, 7-0) host Dumas 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Quick Summary

No. 5 Randall 18, Pampa 1 (5 innings)

Winning and losing pitchers: W-Jeremi Moreno L-Collin Killgo

It was over when: The fifth ranked Raiders scored five runs in the second, and followed with five runs in the third and fourth innings.

Game balls go to: Chance Harlan of Randall. Harlan was four-for-four, with a home run, a double and three runs batted in. Iszac Valdez of Randall. Valdez was four-for-four with two home runs and two runs batted in.

MVP for Pampa: Zach Murray who went two-for-two and provided half of the Harvesters base hits.

Stat of the game: 30 Raiders batted in the second, third and fourth innings combined. Randall scored 15 total runs in those innings and nine hits.

Teams	1	2	3	4	5	Final
Randall	2	5	5	5	1	18
Pampa	1	0	0	0	0	1

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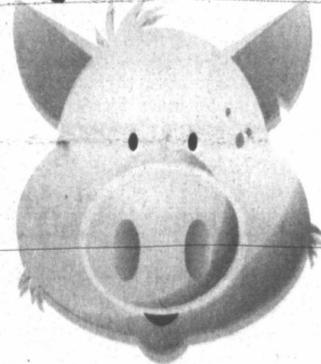
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Sports

Lady Harvesters dominate struggling Lady Dons

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters continued to swing the bats well in their dominant defeat of the Palo Duro Lady Dons 28-0 Friday in Amarillo.

Assistant coach Ches Tucker said the team has been focused on being patient at the plate and it's paying off.

"They are doing a good job at picking good pitches," Tucker said. "They are making pitchers pay by hit-

ting it hard and putting it in play. In the last five games we have had 84 hits."

Pampa scored from the start of game, putting up five in the first. The Lady Harvesters scored four in the second and four in the third. In the fourth, Pampa exploded for 12 runs and scored their last three runs in the fifth. Tucker said everyone had at least three at bats, with some getting six. Everyone also got an RBI.

Carlyn Teichmann (10-5-

1) was the winning pitcher as she only allowed two hits. The senior pitcher has had four straight winning decisions and has only given up three runs in those outings combined.

The Lady Harvesters (17-9-1, 7-1) host Dumas 5 p.m. Tuesday at Lady Harvester Field. Tucker said the team looks to continue to keep rolling.

"We are looking to continue to play good defense, pitch well and hit well," Tucker said.

Teams	1	2	3	4	5	Final
Pampa	5	4	4	12	3	28
PD	0	0	0	0	0	0



photo by **Charla Shults**
Madi Shults reaches for the throw from Jordan Mayhew against Palo Duro. The Lady Harvesters won 28-0 and hold first to themselves, since Randall didn't play.



photo by **Charla Shults**
Ashley Facio, Jordan Mayhew, and Shelbie Watson on a run down backed up by McKinlee Stokes and Samantha Pearson. Pampa beat Palo Duro 28-0 Friday.

Celebrate Teichmann's signing with Howard College

You are invited to help Carlyn celebrate her signing to play softball with the Howard Junior College Lady Hawks.

Come watch the Lady Harvesters play Dumas at Lady Harvester Field on Tuesday, April 13, at 5 p.m.

Directly following the game, we will wish Carlyn good luck at Lady Harvester Field. There will be plenty of cake!! Come join the fun!!

2010 HARVESTER SPORTS SCHEDULE



TENNIS

APRIL 12-13

Harvesters at District Tournament in Amarillo

SOFTBALL

MONDAY, APRIL 12

Lady Harvester JV VS Dumas • 5 pm at Pampa

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

Lady Harvesters VS Dumas • 5 pm at Pampa

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

Lady Harvester JV VS Caprock • 1 pm at Caprock

Lady Harvesters VS Caprock • 1 pm at Caprock

BASEBALL

MONDAY, APRIL 12

Harvester JV VS Palo Duro • 5 pm at Pampa

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

Harvesters VS Palo Duro • 5 pm at Palo Duro

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

Harvester JV VS Borger • 11 am at Pampa

TRACK

APRIL 15-16

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April 8

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- Paul Hare
- Kitty Hall
- Tee #2A—30
- Doug McFartridge
- Taylor Harris
- Dwight Chase
- Annette Chase
- Tee #3A—30
- Daniel Williams
- Danny Reagan
- Jamie Warner
- Connie Manzanres

Tee #4A—28—First \$32 each

- Max Simon
- Chuck White
- Howard Reed
- Danny McCarley

Tee #5A—29—Fourth \$15 each

- Scott White
- Britton White

Butch Thompson

Gene Hall

Tee #6A—31

- Jon East
- Shane Bridwell
- Chad Imani
- Ricky Conner

Tee #7A—30

- Dan Nicolet
- Greg Logan
- Mike Stone
- Randall Cross

Tee #8A—30

- David McGill
- Billy Crain
- Dee Joiner
- Logan Reagan

Tee #9A—31

- Steve Williams
- Mike Vinson
- Brett Bromwell
- Sheila McFartridge

28—Second \$25 each

- Daniel Heuston
- Jack Curtis
- Terry Hall

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Hidden Hills Golf Course

4 Person Scramble

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David Teichmann.....(806) 669-5596
Coach Alan Segura.....(806) 570-3682

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City League kickball standings as of April 9.

Mixed	Conf. W-L	Overall W-L
Snapping Turtles	0-0	2-0
First Baptist	0-0	2-0
NOV	0-0	2-0
Goode Angus	0-0	1-1
Team C B C	0-0	1-1
Central Baptist	0-0	0-2
Organized Chaos	0-0	0-2
Code Black	0-0	0-2

We would like your results
If you are a coach on one of the slow pitch softball or kickball teams we would like your results. E-mail Andrew Glover at aglover@thepampanews.com

Diabetes Support Group
Tuesday, April 13th • 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
In the Cafeteria

Our program will be presented by
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Vice President, First State Bank of Miami, Pampa Branch
"Sixty Years and Counting - The Success Story of a Diabetic"

Diet Specific Refreshments will be served.

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Sports

7H Dribblers win two more tournament championships

ROY LOTT
Special to The Pampa News
The 7-H Raiders 5-6 grade basketball team came prepared to win the Shamrock Little Dribblers tournament held March 26 and 27, and they did just that winning three straight games to become the champions once again. Winning games against Ft. Elliott by a margin of 30-4 and Canadian by 28-12, it paved the way for the Raiders to play for the championship game against the host team Shamrock. In a packed gym and a vocal hometown crowd, the Raiders went on a 19 to 6 run before ending

the half to lead the Irish. But Shamrock stepped up an applied a full court press coming out of the half and allowed the Irish to get within 6 points, but the Raiders quickly adjusted and broke away to win 30-19.

Excellent scoring by Adam Zuniga (21 Pts), Colton Thompson (19 pts) and Josh Watson (18pts) contributed highly to the Raiders success. Cameron Copley allowed for 16 assists and 17 pts was he also was a huge contribution. Kyndan Lott rejected several attempted baskets and played stealer defense

in the middle of the paint helping to hold the 3 opponents to just 35 points. Jared Lake and Carson Ritter both gave strong performances on both sides of the ball. Bradey Porter the youngest of the team is contributed as being the most improved player for the Raiders, with this speed and determination he is a force defensively.

The Raiders will soon travel to Amarillo to compete in the Hoop 10 Warm-up Tournament and the Jim Brinkley/Red Bell Memorial Tournament in Panhandle.



submitted photo
The 7H Raiders pose with their medals after they were crowned champions of the Wheeler Little Dribblers basketball tournament March 19-20.



submitted photo
The 7H Raiders with their medals after the Shamrock Tournament March 26-27. Back row left to right: Coach Roy Lott, Colten Thompson, Kyndan Lott, Cameron Copley, Adam Zuniga, Josh Watson. Front row left to right: Jared Lake, Carson Ritter, Bradey Porter

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City mixed slow pitch softball and kickball league scores

April 6, 2010 Mixed slow pitch softball scores
Snappy Services/ J&J Karts 7 OCB 0
Gayla Rigdon State Farm 12 B&G 0
Panhandle Meter 15 Top O' Texas/AMA Techtel 8 Baptist 5
Panhandle Meter 7 OCB 0 NOV 5 Organized Chaos 4
Gayla Rigdon State Farm 9 First Baptist 6 Team C B C 0
Desperados 8 C 0
Team C B C 7 Goode Angus 6
Panhandle Meter 15 Top Snapping Turtles 13 Code Black 8

Slow pitch softball standings

Mixed	Conf. W-L	Overall W-L
Panhandle Meter	0-0	2-0
Gayla Rigdon State Farm	0-0	2-0
Top O' Texas/AMA Techtel	0-0	1-1
Snappy Services/ J&J Karts	0-0	1-1
B&G	0-0	1-1
Desperados	0-0	0-2
OCB	0-0	0-2

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Comics

Marmaduke



"Ever notice how he sits at that window each day to drool?"

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By Bil Keane



4-10
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"But I don't want to cross the street."

Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 35 Bruins' sch.
 - 1 "The Grass Harp" writer
 - 7 Fox musical series
 - 11 Perfect place
 - 12 Tumble
 - 13 One taking it easy
 - 14 Not new
 - 15 Grounds
 - 16 "Death-trap" co-star
 - 17 Snifter part
 - 18 Radio wave-emitting star
 - 19 "Don't you wish!"
 - 21 "— been swell!"
 - 22 Article highlight
 - 25 Guide-book feature
 - 26 Banish
 - 27 Like some training
 - 29 Diner dish
 - 33 Makes headway
 - 34 Green sauce
- DOWN**
- 1 Restrains
 - 2 Bothered
 - 3 Deputized bunch
 - 4 Best
 - 5 Binds
 - 6 Plug's place
 - 7 Watery porridge
 - 8 Wigs out
 - 9 Lift
 - 10 Church leaders
 - 16 Chaka Khan's old group
 - 18 Irritate
 - 20 Vegas machines
 - 22 Cure-all
 - 23 Greek letter
 - 24 Desdemona's husband
 - 25 Tycoons
 - 28 Laughable
 - 30 Fur tycoon
 - 31 Chef's need
 - 32 Sharpens
 - 34 Pub order
 - 36 Towel word

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A	C	H	Y	B	A	T	T	L	E
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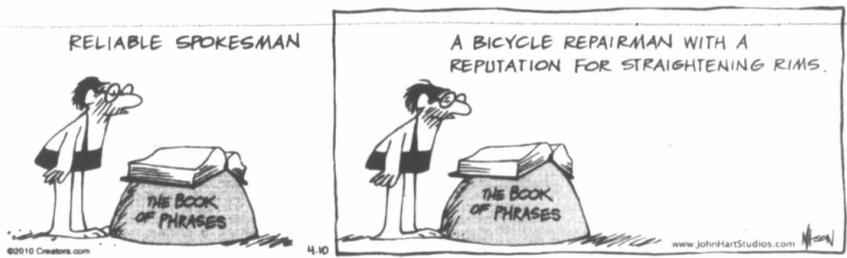
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Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Big summer battle ahead for Stevens' replacement

WASHINGTON (AP) — The retirement of Justice John Paul Stevens, the Supreme Court's leading liberal, touched off an immediate election-year political battle Friday over President Barack Obama's second high court pick. Republicans promised trouble for any activist nominee.

Obama said he would quickly name a successor in the mold of Stevens, who he said was a voice for ordinary people rather than powerful interests.

Eleven days before his 90th birthday, Stevens said he would step down when the court finishes its work for the summer in hopes that a replacement could be confirmed well before the next term begins in October.

"We cannot replace Justice Stevens' experience or wisdom," Obama said at the White House after returning from Prague where he had signed a nuclear treaty. "I'll seek someone in the coming weeks with similar qualities: an independent mind, a record of excellence



Stevens

and integrity, a fierce dedication to the rule of law and a keen understanding of how the law affects the daily lives of the American people. It will also be someone who, like Justice Stevens, knows that in democracy powerful interests must not be allowed to drown out the voices of ordinary citizens."

A White House official said about 10 people are under consideration, but speculation has focused on fewer than that. Leading candidates are said to be Solicitor General Elena Kagan, 49, and federal appellate Judges Merrick Garland, 57, in Washington and Diane Wood, 59, in Chicago. All three were considered last year as well, and Obama interviewed Kagan and Wood before choosing Sonia Sotomayor for the

high court.

Of those, Wood would be most likely to excite Obama's liberal base and stir up conservative opposition. Garland is seen as most acceptable to Republicans, with Kagan somewhere in between.

Stevens is the court's last remaining World War II veteran and the second oldest justice in the court's history. His retirement had been hinted at for months, and the White House had made clear it would be ready to nominate a replacement without delay.

A leading Democrat said the Senate, where Democrats control 59 seats, would follow the same pattern as last year, when Sotomayor was confirmed as the 111th justice in early August. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, appealed for civility. "I hope that senators on both sides of the aisle will make this process a thoughtful and civil discourse," he said.

Stupak steps down amidst furor

MARQUETTE, Mich. (AP) — Rep. Bart Stupak insists that tea party activists outraged over his crucial support of health care legislation didn't run him out of office, but his decision to retire gives conservatives a rallying point as they target Democrats in the midterm elections.

The congressman, an anti-abortion Democrat whose high-profile role in the "Obamacare" debate earned him enemies on the left and the right, said Friday that he's leaving because he's tired and has accomplished his No. 1 goal: improving health care.

"The tea party did not run me out," Stupak told The Associated Press in a phone interview. "If you know me and my personality, I would welcome the challenge."

Stupak had been a consistent landslide winner in his sprawling northern Michigan district, and the opening now offers Republicans a ripe opportunity to regain a seat they held for decades until Stupak prevailed in 1992.

His political foes — tea party activists and abortion opponents — both claimed credit for forcing him into retirement, and Michigan GOP Chairman Ron Weiser declared that the nine-term incumbent had become the first casualty of the



Stupak

battle over health care in Congress.

"Bart Stupak's decision to retire is emblematic of the many Democrats in swing districts who have been forced into casting tough votes in favor of politically unpopular policies at the behest of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi," added Ken Spain, communications director for the House Republican campaign committee.

No prominent or well-funded Republican, however, had stepped in to challenge Stupak, who said he was confident of winning re-election. The 58-year-old said he was withdrawing because he was worn out and wanted more family time after nearly 18 years in Congress and the grueling health care battle.

"I've struggled with this decision. I've wanted to leave a couple of times, but I always thought there was one more job to be done," he said at a news conference.

"Since the day I took office, I fought to improve the quality and accessibility of health care," he said. "My No. 1 legislative goal has been accomplished."

Discovery astronauts take first spacewalk, make station repairs

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A pair of spacewalking astronauts disconnected an old empty ammonia tank outside the International Space Station on Friday and got a new one ready to put in its place.

In the first of three spacewalks needed to complete the job, Clayton Anderson had no problem taking apart the ammonia lines on the old tank. But he needed a pry bar to remove the new tank out of space shuttle Discovery's payload bay. The tank got hung up on a bolt.

"Go nice and easy, Clay," spacewalking partner Rick Mastracchio warned as Anderson pushed and prodded with the pry bar. After several tries, the tank finally came free. "We got it!" Anderson called out.

The two men lifted the 1,700-pound tank out of Discovery and handed it off to a robot arm, which maneuvered it to a temporary storage location at the space station.

The actual swap-out of the two tanks

will take place during the second spacewalk Sunday, with the entire effort wrapping up on the third and final outing Tuesday. It will be "a big juggle" with the tanks, said David Coan, Mission Control's lead spacewalk officer.

Besides the tank work, Mastracchio and Anderson collected a science experiment from the space station's Japanese lab and replaced a failed station-positioning device.

Then the game plan changed. Instead of tackling battery work, they focused on hoses and clamps. Astronaut Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger, directing the spacewalk from inside, urged the men to go slow because of the switch.

Mastracchio and Anderson were originally scheduled to work on old batteries on the far left end of the space station, along the sprawling power truss. But based on new findings, NASA canceled the task this week because of concern the two might get shocked. The job instead will be carried out on the next shuttle.

The Pampa News'

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Daily Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, April 12, 2010:

This year, break patterns and open up to innovative thinking. Many times you could be shocked by your choices. A new life cycle begins in January 2011. Don't carry any unneeded baggage. Accept change, and you will float through issues. If you are single, you might have an unusual amount of suitors. Date until you meet the right person. If you are attached, you become more assertive than in the past. Expect a reaction. A fellow ARIES knows how to "light your fire."

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 start this Monday with a jolt, wishing perhaps that it was still the weekend. Never fear — with the Moon cheering you on, there is nothing you cannot accomplish. Look at it as a bump in the road that you will skip over. Tonight: Let go of the day's stress.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★ To be blunt, there are simply some days you are better off calling in sick or pretending you are invisible! Take in everything that goes down, knowing you do have a choice — your response. Curb immediate reactions. Tonight: Have a necessary chat with a family member.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Whatever your first few thoughts are this morning, they supply you with enough adrenaline to keep you running in high gear. You might wonder which is the best course. A partner

chooses to be difficult. A meeting produces key information. Tonight: Where people are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Let your mind drift until it is clear that you must take action. With the exception of a partner, others seem pliable, informative and supportive. Work as a team, delegating and letting others feel important. Tonight: Easy works.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Another person expresses his or her dominance. You could establish yours, or you could rise above the issue and just let it go. Put your mind toward finding better solutions and learning more. At work, though you could be an expert, there is always more to learn. Tonight: Discuss an idea until you make a decision.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Others electrify your morning, for better or for worse. Let a partner who thinks he knows more run the show. Meanwhile, go off and do your thing. Your creativity will need to emerge in order to find the right path. Tonight: Talk over dinner.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ You have a list of to-do's, and you just might toss them to the wind. You might discover that staying on track isn't a goal after certain events or discussions. Defer to associates and let them run with the ball. Tonight: Sort through your options.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Whether you are the source or someone else is, the unexpected occurs when you least anticipate it. Your flexibility is tested, as a boomerang heads in your direction. Stay easy when dealing with a difficult partner or associate.

Tonight: Focus on one item at a time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ If you encounter obstacle after obstacle as you are trying to get out the door, maybe you need to understand the message: Stay home. Some days are best spent not fighting city hall. A child or new friend would adore the extra time. Tonight: Act as if there is no tomorrow.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ You could be upset with news that suddenly is dropped on you. Know that you can handle it, and get past the immediate problem. Your ability to move past a hassle might need some extra help. Coocon if you want to get anything done. Tonight: Say "yes" to living.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Investigate a financial offer or issue. You are working with a double-edged sword. Recognize the risk you are taking, and decide if it is worth it. Only you truly understand the damages as well as the plusses. Tonight: Join a friend and visit.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You continue to surprise others. The problem comes in establishing strong, trusting relationships. If people's nerves are always on edge with you, it could be difficult to really relate. Is the cost of this behavior worth it? Tonight: Pay bills first.

BORN TODAY

Late-night talk-show host David Letterman (1947), country singer Vince Gill (1957), author Tom Clancy (1947)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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The Pampa News

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Daily Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, April 11, 2010:

This year, you will want to tune in to your inner voice more often. Your sixth sense homes in on what is going on. No matter what happens, you can trust that you will land on your feet. You are carrying a lucky rabbit's foot. A life cycle is completed by your next birthday, be honest about what isn't working. Next year, you will christen a new luck cycle. Start it right. If you are single, check out new people with care. Someone might not be what he or she seems. If you are attached, the two of you will love your special time together. PISCES makes a great doctor for you.

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)

*** An innate sense that you need to spend some time alone is right-on. Of course, you might want to share your seclusion with a special person who is easy to be around. Guard your peace, and don't answer your cell phone. Tonight: Get a head start on tomorrow.

This Week: Make a wish or resolution on Wednesday's New Moon in your sign. You are empowered.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** Certainly you cannot say you are alone. Many people seek you out. A friend insists you join him or her. Respond to this request. You might be surprised by what evolves and how you feel. Tonight: Where the action is. You have a lot to smile about.

This Week: You could have a case of the blahs until late Wednesday. Then you are a living dynamo.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

*** Others respect your decisions and often lean on your strength and decisiveness. An opportunity heads in your direction that you simply cannot and will not say no to. Someone you admire feels the same way about you. Tonight: Till the wee hours.

This Week: Emphasize goals, meetings

and a key friendship through Wednesday.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** Read between the lines. You might want to note what isn't being said. Meet a friend halfway and go on an outing together. Think "travel." Think "vacation." Tonight: Try a new type of cuisine.

This Week: Expect to take a strong stand. You will see the results by Friday.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** Work with a partner or friend directly. You might not be comfortable with everything that this person wants. But you decide not to confront the situation, as it really isn't that significant ultimately. Accept rather than reject. Tonight: Opt for closeness.

This Week: Try to detach. If you're questioning an idea or needing some more feedback, find an expert. You will know what to do.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** Let others make the decisions. You are going along for the ride, nothing more. With an easy attitude, you'll discover just how much fun you can have with a certain person and his or her crowd. Tonight: Enjoying the ride.

This Week: Others make offers. With any luck, you might be able to mend a relationship.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

*** Sometimes, as extroverted and as social as you are, you still want to pull back and do your thing. Complete a project or tackle your taxes. Whatever you do, you might feel overwhelmed. Tonight: Do for you.

This Week: Others dominate. Be happy; it will give you free time to do your thing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** Holding back could be close to impossible. Do avoid taking a bold risk, even if you feel lucky. Remember, you always have to be ready to deal with the damages. If you are single and want to keep that status, you might need to dodge Cupid's arrow. Tonight: Don't think about tomorrow. Live for today.

This Week: Plunge into work and clear out as much as possible. Ask for feed-

back Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

*** Personal or domestic matters take priority. You could be overwhelmed by everything that you need to handle. Some of you might be working on your taxes, too. Whatever you are doing, you will feel great when you're done. Tonight: Make it easy.

This Week: Let your ingenuity problem-solve. Also make time for a loved one.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** Do a round of Sunday calls and touch base with those you don't speak to frequently. Touching base makes everyone feel good. In fact, so much so that you could start planning a get-together. Tonight: You don't have to go far.

This Week: Anchor in at the office or at home. Study a situation rather than act.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** Be aware of your spending or, rather, the potential dent you are creating in your checkbook. Do you really want to do this? Is this expenditure worth the cost? Only you can answer that question. Tonight: Your treat.

This Week: Keep communication flowing. Refuse to stand on ceremony.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

***** Your personality melts another person's resistance. Use your innate warmth and caring to ease tension. You seem unusually lucky right now. Focus on what you want. A parent or older friend pays you an enormous compliment. Tonight: As you like.

This Week: Balance your budget before making any financial commitments. Then you can come from a secure place.

BORN TODAY

Clothing designer Oleg Cassini (1913), widow of JFK Ethel Kennedy (1928), singer Joss Stone (1987)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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5 Special Notices

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

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

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.
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14i Plumbing/Heat
BROWNING Heating & Air Cond., 665-1212. Free esti. on new equip. We service all brands!
JACK'S Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115.

19 Situations
HOUSEKEEPING Good References Reasonable Rates 665-5859
HOUSE Cleaning Services. Ref Available. Call Blanca or Rocio 663-1061 or 662-2644.

21 Help Wanted
Now seeking a temporary Full/Part Time Dependable Salesperson to operate Pampa store. Duties: Assisting Customers, Maintaining Plants and Operating Cash Register. Starting pay: \$8.00 / hr., 40 hr. work week. No exp. necessary.
Hiring begins April 1st
Send resume to D&C Greenhouse 36 Nelson Dr. Spearman, TX 79081

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Hiring for Remodel / Set-Up April 17, 2010
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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER is accepting applications for a Correctional LVN to work in correctional health care setting at the Jordan Unit. Must possess current LVN license. Successful candidate will be required to pass a security clearance. For additional information and to apply, log on to <http://jobs.texasstate.edu> and refer to requisition #81007.

TTUHSC is an EEO/AA Employer

AUCTION
ED BROOKS & ASSOCIATES AUCTIONEERS ARE PLEASED TO BE SELLING THE LIVING ESTATE OF JOYCE ELLIOTT & OTHERS

SATURDAY APRIL 17TH 10:00 A.M.
1600 N. ZIMMERS
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SALE HIGHLIGHTS TO INCLUDE:
'08 Toyota RAV 4 (only 5500 miles), '64 Corvair convertible, '87 Conversion van, 2 jet skis on trailer, gas powered golf cart, beautiful furniture-bedroom, dining room furniture, china cabinet, hutch, kitchen table/chairs, livingroom furniture, rocking chairs, desks, appliances-washer/dryer, refrigerator & microwave, computers, lamps, jewelry, framed art & wall hangings, clocks, hot tub, Murray riding mower w/catcher & garden cart, Toro mower, Craftsman elect start mower, edger & other lawn equipment/tools, ladders, grill, casino gaming machine, household items and decor, matting and framing equipment and materials, hand tools/equipment, power tools, lots of misc. garage/storage building items

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Concessions Available Sale Day & The Coffee Is On Us!
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10% Buyers Premium. Proxy Bidding Available If Unable To Attend. All Announcements Made Sale Day Are Final & Have Priority. Ed Brooks TX Lic# 13630

Ed Brooks & Associates
Ed Brooks 806-664-3583
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Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, Sanford, Texas. Sal DOQ. Requirements: Strong governmental accounting experience, Bachelor's Degree in accounting a plus. 5+ years advanced knowledge of governmental accounting and fiscal reporting, budget preparation and effective monitoring, supervision of all accounting functions and staff, fixed asset management, debt issuances and management of extensive debt service requirements, methods and procedures for effective internal controls and management of computer system and all accounting and financial reporting functions.

Fax resume to 806/665-3314 or email: thamby@crmwva.com (806/665-3325; <http://crmwva.com>) Pos. open until filled CRMVA is an EOE

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2235 Nelson



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1219 Williston



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2400 Navajo



MLS # 10-8590

1301 Christine



Price Reduced! MLS # 09-8519

1727 Dogwood



MLS # 10-8597

1029 Dwight



MLS # 10-8567

1209 Mary Ellen



MLS # 09-8460

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BROKER, ABR, GREEN, SRES, e-Pro
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Very Nice Floor Plan

3 bedroom brick, 2 full baths. WB fireplace. Large isolated master bedroom and bath. Front kitchen and dining. Yard sprinkler front and back. Great storage building. Fenced RV parking. Covered patio. Estate says sell. Call for additional information.

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21 Help Wanted

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

NOTICE: All ads that contain phone numbers or give reference to a number with an area code of 809 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.

CHILD CARE worker needed for Sundays and Wednesdays, Age 18 or above. Background check required. For information call 665-3300

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NOW hiring Assistant Management Trainee for the Pampa Office. Come join our dynamic team! National Consumer Finance Co. with over 850 locations. Full benefits package. Vacation-paid holidays-medical & life ins. 401k retirement-excellent training program. No finance exp. required. We're looking for qualified candidates with a desire to succeed & advance. Apply in person at 1534 N. Hobart. World Acceptance Corp. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

21 Help Wanted

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IMMEDIATE OPENINGS on most shifts. Must be TEXAS State Certified or possess State license. Competitive rates! Must be able to pass background check & drug screen. EOE. Call (806)665-5746, or apply in person at CORONADO HEALTHCARE CENTER, 1504 W. Kentucky Ave., Pampa.

NEED evening sitter. Pick up 3 yr old from daycare, booster provided, 5-8pm. 440-5103

F-T CNA's needed. Apply in person at McLean Care Center, or fax resume to 806-779-2515.

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

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

BATHROOM heaters, used, good condition. \$15 a piece or make offer for whole lot. 665-0415.

CARPET CLEANING!!! Furniture Clinic, 316-0713. Refinishing, Repairing & Re-Gluing.

SELLING Mattresses for 30 yrs. Low prices! New queen set \$266. Don Minnick, Montgomery Ward retiree. Red Barn, 1420 Hwy. 273 South. Open each Sat. Will open anytime for you. Call 665-2767

2 Prom Dresses for sale, sz. 8-bronze, sz. 18-red. Call 440-6949

FOR Sale: Futon couch / bed with light finish wood sides. Futon is queen size. \$150.00 firm (cash only). Call 665-7959 after 5:00 PM

AUTHOR Court Element serving pieces avail. for rent for weddings, showers, special occasions. Madison's Closet, 329 N. Hobart.

69 Misc.

SOY Candles & Tarts
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69a Garage Sales
GARAGE Sale, Sun. 8-12. Bat., elect., and air tools, tires, fishing gear, concrete tools, transit levels, antiques, 2 video redemption game mach., lots misc., 1500 E. Frederic.

77 Livest./Equip.
SERVICEABLE Aged Reg. or Comm. Black Angus Bulls. Bloodlines - 878, Northern Improvement, Objective, Morgan's Future Direction. Contact Gordon Thomas 580-655-4318 or 580-497-7217.

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NO transportation, not a problem. These large 1 bdr. apts. w/ appliances, are in walking distance to everything you need. 665-4274.

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New floors, appliances, bathroom & more!
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NO transportation, not a problem. These large 1 bdr. apts. w/ appliances, are in walking distance to everything you need. 665-4274.

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New floors, appliances, bathroom & more!
1 & 2 bdrs.
ALL BILLS PAID
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SCHNEIDER Apartments. Call for special rates. Short term lease. Business people welcome. 665-0415

97 Furn. Houses
VERY Clean 2 brm, 1 ba, 1 car garage. Fenced yard, storage building. Furn. or unfurnished. 413 N. Nelson. \$550 plus. 806-584-1266

98 Unfurn. Houses
PICK up rental list, in the Black Box, at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

98 Unfurn. Houses

CONDO. 2 bdr., 1 3/4 ba., some appl., w/d hookups; fpl.; pool; single gar.; Austin Sch. dist. Gas/water pd. 6 month lease. \$500 dep.; \$650 mo. 669-6841 Mon-Fri. 8-5.

2 bdr., 1 ba., gar., c h&a, w/d hookups. \$600 mo., \$500 dep. 609 Red Deer. 665-5473

SMALL 2 bdr. \$375 mo., \$375 dep. Washer / dryer hookups, fenced. 804 Beryl. 665-5473

LG. 2 brdm, 1 bath, 1 car garage. Austin School. Renovated. Wood floors, fenced yard. 1521 N. Williston. \$595. 806-584-1266

3 bedroom, 1 bath, large carport. Very clean. 330 Jean. \$595. 806-584-1266

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2/1/1. Great neighborhood. 1704 Hamilton. \$525 mo. 570-9824 or 665-5667.

3/2. Updated. 1116 Sirocco. \$750 a month. 806-570-9824 or 665-5667

1121 Darby. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage. Call 886-0089 after 5:30 pm.

99 Stor. Bldgs.
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Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

102 Bus. Rental
DOWNTOWN office space for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

103 Homes For Sale

232 SUNFISH
Howardwick, TX. Corner lot, 3 bdr. (master has 2 lrg. closets & vanity), 2 full ba. Stove, refrig., dishw., garbage disposal. Lrg. patio-off kitchen. Stor. bldg. New: Puro central h/a, Pella windows w/ 30 yr. life, metal roof & exterior paint.
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Over 3000 sq. ft. 3 bdr.-master with French doors leading to deck. Large living room and den. Formal dining room. Office / breakfast room. 1 3/4 ba. with 1/2 ba. in extremely lrg. utility room. Large bright kitchen fully restored to original 1950's decor. Hardwood floors in den, hallway, dining and living room. Fully decked and landscaped back yard with stone walkways. Patio with outdoor fpl / bbq, surrounded by huge pine trees. Additional patio covered by wooden trellis.

FOR SALE
91 Lincoln Town Car
Extremely good cond.
669-3072

121 Trucks
1965 2 ton Chevy truck with 16 ft. wood bed, 2 speed axle. 669-3291.

FOR Sale. 2006 Chevy Silverado 1500 Z-71, 32,000 miles. Call 806-898-6738.

2000 Harley RoadKing
Excellent Cond!
24K miles, \$9300
See at FINISH LINE
408 S. Cuyler
Pampa, TX
or call 806-874-1779

LEFORS FCU is accepting sealed bids on a 1988 Harley Davidson-needs work. Selling as is. Lefors FCU reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Call 835-2773 for more info.

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Homes for Sale:
2547 Duncan, mls#10-8610
3/2/2 \$125,000
1613 Duncan, mls#09-8582
3/2/1 \$109,000 (PENDING)
121 Starkweather, mls#10-8573
3/2/1 two-story \$49,900

Special Financing Available on:
1507 N. Sumner, mls#09-8477
3/1/75/1 \$56,000
1713 Coffee, mls#10-8596
2/1/1, \$22,000

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2120 N. Christy - Lots of Updates! Must See!
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Hardwood Floors | 2 Living Areas | Fireplace
Eat-in Kitchen | Large Back Patio

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

4-10 CRYPTOQUOTE
PU MKQU ET MBEVU
OSUJVGQV PU MLU. AGM
CUIUQ ET MBEVU PU HKIU.

— DEBC OUMKM - VUCC
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: CHANGE DOES NOT NECESSARILY ASSURE PROGRESS, BUT PROGRESS IMPLACABLY REQUIRES CHANGE.
— HENRY STEELE COMMAGER

103 Homes For Sale

2401 CHEROKEE
1929 Sq. Ft.
3 Bdr
2 Full Baths
Office
Fireplace
12x24
Workshop / Stor. Bldg.
Energy efficient & large rooms. Updated interior.
\$129,000
806-662-5498
806-662-5385

2611 Evergreen. Brick ranch, 2/2bsmt. Many updates. New roof, water htr., appli. Spr. sys. Lrg. bdrms & closets w/ home warr. 664-0501

3 bdr., 2 ba., 2 car gar. 1800 sq. ft. New: windows, hardwood floors & appli. Nice yard, patio. 10x14 worksh. \$85,000. 806-278-0166

3/1.75/1. C h&a, fpl in gar., ceramic in kitchen & dining. OWC w/ down pymt. 662-7557.

3/1/1 carport. 2 huge shade trees on west side. No owner carry. Carpeted wood floors. Motivated Seller! 1009 Farley. 663-6800.

4 bdr., 1 3/4 ba., 2300 sq. ft. Remodeled & ready to move in to! \$114,800. 663-0514

FIXER Upper, 2/1/1 extra lot, \$6,500 111 W. 7th St. Lefors, 253-686-5729. No Owner Fin.

OWNER Finance! 1123 E. Foster. 2/1. Call Gary, TruStar, 665-4595

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114 Recre. Veh.
2008 Fleetwood Jam-boree Motorhome. Class C with 2 slides, only 7900 miles, very clean. Call 440-6694.

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115 Trailer Parks
TUMBLEWEED
Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

120 Autos
FOR Sale: 1999 Ford Taurus. Runs great - needs a front bumper. 70k miles. \$2000 OBO. Please call 806-664-1080

FOR Sale
91 Lincoln Town Car
Extremely good cond.
669-3072

121 Trucks
1965 2 ton Chevy truck with 16 ft. wood bed, 2 speed axle. 669-3291.

FOR Sale. 2006 Chevy Silverado 1500 Z-71, 32,000 miles. Call 806-898-6738.

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Pampa MLS & Amarillo MLS

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AUSTIN SCHOOL DISTRICT		North and Northeast	
3 Cypress Point	\$519,900	4/2.5/3	3179 SF/GCAD
2100 Charles	\$245,000	2/3.5/2	3445 SF/GCAD
2421 Duncan	\$194,900	5.2/7.5	2895 SF/GCAD
2518 Evergreen	\$172,900	3/2/2	2331 SF/GCAD
1901 Fir	\$146,500	3/2/2	2101 SF/GCAD
1819 Evergreen	\$145,000	4/1.75/2.5	2315 SF/GCAD
2528 Charles	\$143,500	3/1.75/2	2132 SF/GCAD
2235 Christine	\$139,000	3/2.5/1	2326 SF/GCAD
1810 Beech Ln	\$133,000	3/2/2	2254 SF/GCAD
2541 Christine	\$129,500	3/1.75/2	2050 SF/GCAD
2207 Chestnut	\$125,000	3/1.75/1	1950 SF/Measured
2614 Cherokee	\$120,000	3/1.75/2	1855 SF/GCAD
2020 Christine	\$117,500	3/1/3	1607 SF/GCAD
1301 Charles	\$109,890	4/2/2	1732 SF/GCAD
1826 Williston	\$103,000	4/2/2	2590 SF/GCAD
2236 Dogwood	\$79,900	3/1.5/1	1264 SF/GCAD
1445 N Russell	\$65,000	3/1.75/2	1504 SF/GCAD
700 Somerville	\$65,000	3/1.75/0	1650 SF/GCAD
1715 Williston	\$58,000	3/1.5/1	1634 SF/GCAD
704 E 16th Ave	\$54,900	3/1.5/2	1323 SF/GCAD
Chaumont	\$35,000	Lots 1 & 2 Block 2	

LAMAR SCHOOL DISTRICT		Southwest	
213 N Sumner	\$49,000	2/1.75/1	1036 SF/GCAD
1048 Neel	\$40,000	3/1.75/1	1277 SF/GCAD
411 Ward	\$25,000	2/1/0	723 SF/GCAD

TRAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT		West and Northwest	
2132 Lynn	\$149,000	3/1.75/2	2484 SF/GCAD
2143 Sumner	\$115,000	4/3/2	1925 SF/GCAD
2120 Lynn	\$110,900	3/1.75/2	1872 SF/GCAD
1916 Lynn	\$88,000	4/2/2	2258 SF/GCAD
2112 Christy	\$79,000	3/1.75/1	1232 SF/GCAD
1000 Terry	\$75,000	3/1.75/1	1817 SF/GCAD
2101 N Wells	\$69,900	3/1.75/2	1435 SF/GCAD
801 N Dwight	\$60,000	3/2/2	1464 SF/GCAD
1100 Cinderella	\$59,000	3/1.75/1	1411 SF/GCAD
1129 Seneca	\$45,000	3/1/1	864 SF/GCAD

WILSON SCHOOL DISTRICT		Southeast	
532 N Red Deer	\$92,000	3/1.75/2	1846 SF/GCAD
512 Red Deer	\$89,900	3/1.75/1	1536 SF/GCAD
1128 Terrace	\$45,000	2/1/1	1140 SF/GCAD
316 Henry	\$39,900	2/1/0	892 SF/GCAD

OTHER AREAS		Outside Pampa City Limits	
530 Acres Near Lefors	\$530,000	Ranch West of Lefors	
220 N Ballard	\$395,000	Lt. Commer. 4 bth/27,797 SF/GCAD	
2642 Co Rd 17, WD	\$189,000	3/1.75/2 - 1640 SF/CCAD w/6 acres	
14140 I-40 McLean	\$89,500	35.8 Acres 2 Miles East of McLean	
14140 I-40 McLean	\$70,000	3/2/0 - 2176 SF/GCAD	
1023 Hedgecote, Borger	\$59,900	3/2/2 - 1580 SF/HCAD	
1108 Elmore, Borger	\$44,900	3/2/0 - 1769 SF/HCAD	
412 S Grimes, WD	\$39,900	4/1/2 - 1333 SF/CCAD	
801 S Grimes WD	\$37,500	3/2/2 - 1400 SF/CCAD	
502 E 4th, Clarendon	\$27,500	3/1.75/2 - 1845 SF/DCAD	
317 E 8th, Lefors	\$25,000	2/1/2 - 1035 SF/GCAD	

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Rescue crews resume W. Va mine searches

MONTCOAL, West Virginia (AP) — Grieving relatives began burying victims of the Upper Big Branch coal mine disaster Friday as rescue crews ventured back into the blast-damaged shaft for another agonizingly slow, dangerous and probably hopeless search for survivors.

It was their fourth attempt to find the four miners missing since Monday's explosion killed 25 others in America's worst underground disaster since at least 1984. During the previous rescue attempts, searchers were forced to withdraw by dangerous gases and the risk of fire or explosion.

"We are praying for a miracle," President Barack Obama said in Washington.

Rescuers acknowledged that was what it would take for the miners to have made it to a refuge chamber stocked with food, water and enough oxygen for several days.

On Friday morning, rescuers made their way about 1,000 feet (305 meters) underground and five miles (eight kilometers) into the mine to examine one of the chambers, but no one was inside and smoke forced them to turn back before they could check a second one that would represent the last hope the four were alive.

"We're confident that if they got in there, and they were alive, that we would be able to still rescue them," said Kevin Stricklin of the federal Mine Health and Safety Administration.

The area was flushed with nitrogen and crews headed back inside in the afternoon for what was likely to be a three- or four-hour trip to the chamber, an expandable box activated by opening a door and pulling a lever.

Officials had hoped to lower a camera into the mine to see if the chamber had been used, but the hole was drilled slightly off target, and Stricklin said they would not have been able to see anything.

More than 300 people packed the Mullens Pentecostal Holiness Church for the funeral of Benny Willingham, a 61-year-old miner who was five weeks from retiring when he died.

Willingham was dressed in a red shirt in the open coffin, jet-black hair and mustache neatly combed, family snapshots tucked in the satin around his head and shoulders. The image of a pick, shovel and miner's helmet was embroidered in the fabric along with his name, and a flag draped the lower half of his coffin in a nod to his service during the Vietnam era in the Air Force.

Officials suspect the blast was caused by a buildup of methane gas. In Washington, Obama said he asked federal mine safety officials to give him a report on the disaster next week, and the House and Senate said they would hold hearings.

In the days since the explosion, details have emerged about a long list of safety violations at the mine. The owner, Massey Energy Co., has been repeatedly cited and fined for problems with the system that vents methane and for allowing combustible dust to build up. CEO Don Blankenship has strongly defended the company's record and disputed accusations from miners that he puts coal profits ahead of safety.

Federal regulators issued evacuation orders for all or parts of the mine more than 60 times since the start of 2009, according to a report prepared for Sen. Robert Byrd of West Virginia.

On Sept. 23, 2009, an evacuation order showed an inspector found that management considered production more important than safety twice at Upper Big Branch mine, in instances of skipping mandatory checks of a piece of heavy equipment.

VICTORY CIRCLE



submitted photo

First Baptist Church recently had their Pinewood Derby race for grades 1-6. **LEFT:** Mariana Nava won the best design award with her "Big Texan" car. **RIGHT:** Cole Davis (center) took the checkers in the derby, with Hunter Burnett (right) taking second and Megan Brock finishing third.

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Saturday, April 17
8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

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1601 W. Kentucky, Pampa

\$75

No Pre-registration Necessary

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Dennis Burton, Instructor

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