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# The PAMPA NEWS

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

Volume 105 • No. 328

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## COWABUNGA!



Joe Weaver and Shirley Jernigan of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce check out "Moo-tilda" last week in the chamber's parking lot.

She has been laying around and gathering dust for at least four years, but one afternoon last week, Mootilda rose again. For a brief shining moment, the huge inflatable cow stood proud - if a bit dirty - in the Pampa Chamber of Commerce parking lot. "We just got her out to see what kind of shape she was in and to go through the process of inflating her," said Joe Weaver, the chamber's executive secretary. "She is dirty, but fine other than that."

Moo-tilda was purchased some 10 years ago and was used in promotional efforts by the chamber and rented out to other local businesses and organizations. "We are trying to decide what to do with her," Weaver said. "We would consider an offer if someone wanted to purchase her. "We would like for somebody to have her who would use her more often than we do."

## Medieval reenactment set Saturday

DAVID BOWSER  
dbowser@thepampanews.com

Saturday morning, Central Park will be cast back to a time before buffalo hunters, before mounted Indian warriors of the plains, back to a Medieval Fair when knights of old were chivalrous and bold.

The Noblesse Oblige Society, a medieval recreation group from White Deer, will use Central Park as a setting for their pavilions of brightly colored tents and light sword play in a setting dating to between 800 and 1600 A.D.

Noblesse Oblige is French for the obligation of nobles, said Aimee Burgess, one of a half dozen Pampa members of the reenactment group.

"They're really involved in getting chivalry and honor back into society," Burgess said. She said that while the members of the group play parts, those parts lead members toward being better people, more chivalrous and honorable.

There are some 50 members of the organization, she said. They hail from Pampa, Borger, Amarillo and White Deer. There are even some people from Lubbock.

The president of the society, Rusty Ricks, lives in White Deer, which is known within the organization as Stagholm. Burgess said the demonstration Saturday morning is to attract more members from Pampa.

"That's so we can be our own Shire," Burgess explained.

Saturday's fair will run from 10 a.m. until people get bored or the weather gets ridiculously hot, she laughed.

"I don't think we're going to do any heavy fighting that

## Exchange students winding down Pampa stay

**DARLENE BIRKES**  
AFS exchange students Simone Wullschleger from Switzerland and Ruut Hanhikorpi from Finland will soon be saying *auf wiedersehen* and *nakemiin* to their Pampa family and friends and joining some 2,500 other AFS students en route home from the USA stay.

What did they gain from the experience besides a family and a host of friends in the U.S.A.? "We speak better English, and I know I can survive in a different country," said Wullschleger. Hanhikorpi replied that she was more independent and had improved her English, too.

Both girls agreed that they had no particular expectations before they came. They wanted a different experience, a break from school, and to learn another culture. They came to concentrate on the cultural aspects.

"We knew the education portion would be easier," said Simone.

Ruut explained, "I make friends easily and I don't get homesick, so I wanted to go somewhere, and I really looked forward to this experience."

They added that it takes a year in preparation, with the additional vaccinations required in the U.S., the TB test, forms to fill out, interviews, and more paper work and interviews.

In spite of all of that, Ruut believes that all exchange students want to go somewhere and they really look forward to the opportunity. Coincidentally Simone's family is hosting a girl from Finland, while Simone is in a double home placement with Ruut from Finland here in Pampa. Simone will arrive home about two weeks before her family's exchange student returns to Finland, and Simone is looking forward to meeting the exchange student who took her place in her home this year.

The two girls have enjoyed a double placement. Simone was thankful she had another exchange student with her. Both agreed it was hard at school at first, and they relied on each other.

However, the exchange student world was not new to them. Both have families who had hosted students and relatives who were hosting. Ruut's cousins will be hosting



submitted photo by Darlene Birkes

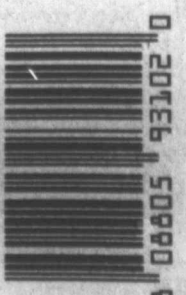
Exchange students Simone Wullschleger (left) of Switzerland and Ruut Hanhikorpi of Finland reminisce about their school year in Pampa.

two girls this next school year. Ruut can hardly wait to meet them and vows that they "will be my best friends this next year."

Both girls concluded that people are the same, make the same mistakes. **STUDENTS** cont. on page 3

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# For the record

## PAMPA FORECAST

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
High 86 Low 67	High 94 Low 68	High 93 Low 70

**Tonight:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Some of the storms could be severe. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 68. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

**Wednesday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 86. South wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Wednesday Night:** Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly clear, with a low around 67. Windy, with a south southeast wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 94. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Thursday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 68. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

**Friday:** Sunny, with a high near 93. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

**Friday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 70. Windy, with a south wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

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## Democrat White releases tax returns

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Democratic gubernatorial candidate Bill White is releasing his tax returns for the years he served as Houston mayor.

Republican Gov. Rick Perry has been pounding White for weeks for not giving more detail about his income and business relationships. The returns released Tuesday show

White made more than \$1 million a year during his tenure as mayor of the state's largest city, from 2004-2008. White reported \$4.6 million in adjusted gross income in 2005, the highest earnings in the six-year period. His lowest income came in 2009, when White reported \$660,000 in income.

## Callon has wells in Gulf of Mexico

NATCHEZ, Miss. (AP) — Officials with Natchez-based Callon Petroleum, which has deep-water wells in the Gulf of Mexico, say they don't have immediate plans that will be affected by the six-month moratorium on offshore drilling.

Callon spokesman Terry Trovato tells The Natchez Democrat that the company has not drilled any offshore wells in the Gulf in the last

18 months and has no plans to do so for the remainder of the year.

Trovato says operations at its two major oil-producing wells, Medusa and Habanero, have not been affected by the continuing BP oil spill.

He says 94 percent of Callon's budget for capital expenditure for 2010 is being spent in the onshore Permian Basin of west Texas and in the Haynesville Shale in northern Louisiana.

## Obituaries

There are no obituaries today.

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

### PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents over the weekend.

Officers reported 26 traffic-related calls and four accidents.

Animal control officers reported 17 animal-related calls.

Pampa EMS reported 12 ambulance calls. The Lefors Volunteer Medical Service reported one medical call. The Pampa Fire Department reported one medical call.

#### Friday, June 4

A theft was reported to police.

Officers assisted a motorist at Harvester and Magnolia.

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 400 block of Pitts.

A theft was reported in the 300 block of Beryl.

Officers served a warrant in Roberts County.

A grass fire was reported in the 1000 block of North Price.

A power line was reported down in the 800 block of East Scott.

Officers provided an escort in the 600 block of North Ward.

Officers performed a welfare check in the 2100 block of Hobart.

A power line was reported down in the 2200 block of North Duncan.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 600 block of East Frederic.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 400 block of Pitts.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1600 block of North Holly.

A burglary was reported in the 1100 block of South Huff.

City officials turned off the water in the 900 block of East Francis.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1600 block of West Somerville.

Phone harassment was reported in the 500 block of North Nelson.

Welfare check was reported in the 1100 block of South Varnon.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at 18th and Evergreen.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 100 block of West 30th.

Officers were put on spe-

cial assignment in the 1100 block of West Coronado.

A theft was reported in the 1100 block of West Alcock.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 400 block of Lowry.

A 911 hangup call was reported in the 1400 block of West Ripley.

A fire investigation was completed in the 1900 block of North Faulkner.

A suspicious person was reported in the 2300 block of Primrose.

Officers check a building in the 100 block of East Craven.

#### Saturday, June 5

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1600 block of East U.S. Highway 60.

A suspicious person was reported in the 700 block of West Browning.

Officers assisted a motorist in the 1300 block of North Hobart.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1400 block of North Russell.

Officers assisted another agency near Skellytown.

A assault was reported in the 700 block of North Deane.

Fraud was reported in the 1400 block of North Christy.

A sexual assault was reported to police.

The burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1900 block of North Fir.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 800 block of North Wells.

Officers were put on special assignment in the 1600 block of East U.S. Highway 60.

Found property was reported in the 1100 block of West Coronado.

The burglary of a motor vehicle was reported to police.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1600 block of East U.S. Highway 60.

Officers made a welfare check at Browning and Lefors.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1100 block of South Huff.

A theft was reported in the 2800 block of Charles.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells.

A runaway was reported in the 1000 block of South Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported in the 600 block

of East Frederic.

A suspicious person was reported in the 300 block of West Brown.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 300 block of South Jean.

Officers checked a building in the 100 block of East Craven.

A theft was reported in the 600 block of Dwight.

Officers checked a building in the 100 block of West Foster.

#### Sunday, June 6

Officers checked a building in the 400 block of West Foster.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1400 block of North Dwight.

A suspicious person was reported at Alcock and Nelson.

A prowler was reported in the 2400 block of North Rosewood.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1500 block of North Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported at Atchison and Cuyler.

An alarm was reported in the 300 block of North Hobart.

A theft was reported in the 1500 block of North Christy.

Harassment was reported to police.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1600 block of North Nelson.

Found property was reported to police.

A theft was reported in the 1300 block of North Coffee.

An alarm was reported in the 100 block of South Hobart.

The burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 2400 block of North Evergreen.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 2100 block of North Zimmers.

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 2100 block of North Sumner.

An alarm was reported in the 400 block of Jupiter.

The burglary of a motor vehicle was reported to police.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 1000 block of South Wells.

A vehicle was reported stolen in the 600 block of East Frederic.

A theft was reported in the 100 block of West 26th.

A theft was reported in the 600 block of North

Magnolia.

An assault was reported to police.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 200 block of Miami.

An alarm was reported in the 4000 block of North Bad Cattle Company Lane.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 4000 block of North Bad Cattle Company Lane.

A prowler was reported in the 500 block of North Frost.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 600 block of East Frederic.

An alarm was reported in the 400 block of Jupiter.

A suspicious person was reported in the 200 block of East Brown.

#### Monday, June 7

A suspicious vehicle was reported at Bond and Dwight.

A burglary was reported in the 700 block of North Somerville.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1300 block of North Coffee.

An alarm was reported in the 1300 block of North Banks.

A burglary was reported in the 700 block of North Somerville.

## SHERIFF

The Gray County Sheriff's Officer reported the following arrests over the weekend.

#### Friday, June 4

Katrina Diane Sonnier, 30, of Canadian, was arrested by police on four capias pro fine warrants.

#### Saturday, June 5

Nancy Winegeart Barton, 33, was arrested by police on four capias pro fine warrants.

Elberia Rios de Nivens, 36, of Borger, was arrested by deputies on public intoxication charges.

Kelly Ray Finger, 40, was arrested by police on theft charges.

Brian Lane Sealman, 27, was arrested by deputies on charges of possession a controlled substance and not wearing a seatbelt.

Wayne Allen Sorensen, 39, of Sacramento, Calif., was arrested by deputies on charges of driving while intoxicated, second offense.

## Carson County Historical Commission to hold quarterly meeting

The Carson County Historical Commission will hold its Quarterly Meeting, Monday, June 14, 2010 at approximately 8:00 PM, immediately following the meeting of the Carson County Square House Museum Board of Trustees. The meeting will be held in the Hazlewood Education Building of the Museum located at 5th and Elsie Streets in Panhandle, Texas.

Program planning for 2010, historic cemeteries in Carson County, the Texas Land Heritage program, and historical marker applications will be among the items discussed according to Linda Germany, chairman of the Carson County Historical Commission.

Carson County Historical Commission meetings are open meetings.

## LAST MINUTE ADS

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

Sudoku

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

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## Medieval Reenactment set Saturday for Central Park

*cont. from page 1*

day," Burgess said, "because we're still pretty short on heavy fighters."

They use heavy sticks to pummel each other.

"You have to wear real armor for that," Burgess said, adding that most of their fighting is with rapiers.

"You don't have to have as heavy an armor," Burgess explained.

Participants are careful, and wear a lot of padding and fencing masks.

"It's enough to make sure that (tipped) swords don't penetrate," Burgess

said. In July, the group expects to get some archers involved. As members move up in the society, Burgess said they can become knights and royalty.

"That's something incredible," she said. "How often to you get to go anywhere and sit down and have a nice drink while people sing songs about you?"

Burgess said one of the knights has a couple of songs about her and a couple of stories.

"Some of the others

have stories," Burgess smiles, "but they're not entirely excited to hear them."

She said they do have their lighter side, but they also have a more serious aspect.

"A lot of us are historians and researchers above all else," Burgess explained. They have a sewing guild, a brewer's guild and a cooking guild, which was inevitably followed by the eating guild.

"We have a brewer's guild," Burgess said. "We've got a lot of peo-

ple who brew their own mead, wine, brandy and a lot of people make various punches."

There is also a tin-making guild and a siege guild where members learn how to make catapults.

"We have a rancher on the edge of town who's requested that we build full-sized siege weapons on his land," Burgess said. "That's going to be a very long and expensive project."

Burgess said that the group doesn't have a set schedule.

"We have events about every two months," she said. This month is unusual because they met last weekend in Old Mobeetie and they're meeting again this weekend in Pampa. Burgess said they usually have a Revel, or a fighter practice followed by a potluck feast, once a month. She said that after last weekend, the group is favoring the Old Mobeetie campground, but they've met at Lake Greenbelt, Lake Meredith and Lake Fryer.

"We're looking into

adopting a park here in Pampa," Burgess said. "We've all really fallen in love with the idea. That's where our fighter practice will be."

Membership is \$20 a year, she said. "We're very much donation-based," Burgess said. "We are a real licensed non-profit organization. It's not like we're just a bunch of weirdoes. There is something to this. It's a lot of fun."

## Exchange students winding down Pampa stay

*cont. from page 1*

takes, have similar problems, have similar personalities and relationships, but there are the cultural differences such as in food, dress, music, homes, lifestyles that are different.

They cited the lack of public transportation in our country as a big problem. Since Ruut is 18 she will be getting her driver's license when she returns home, and the cost will vary between \$2,000-\$3,000. But for those who do not have the money or car, they can rely on the bike, taxi, bus, or train in Europe.

Simone and Ruut commented that everything in the states is "bigger and

fancier"—houses, cars, etc. Then the subject changed to food, and they commented that all exchange students, wherever they went—to Europe, to the states, or elsewhere—seem to have a problem with gaining weight when they live in another culture. Americans have a problem in Finland, as the Finnish do in America commented Ruut.

"We don't have so much meat; meat is expensive," said Simone. She noted a \$10 meal in the U.S. would be \$20 in Switzerland. They do miss the fresh vegetables that are definitely not cooked.

"We live in a global world, and we get products

from everywhere. Finnish products are usually higher," Ruut commented. She added that she would miss the huge glasses of tea and the free refills in the restaurants.

Simone surmised that she did not walk as much here. "In Switzerland I have to walk to school, even in bad weather," she said. "My parents would never take me to school—only if I had a broken leg."

Would they be an exchange student again? "Certainly," they replied simultaneously.

Ruut vowed to go to Hawaii again, where she went on a Belo tour with AFS during spring break.

"Maybe I could work there after college," she said hopefully.

Simone wants to get a master's degree in translating, and she would like to go to Spain or Italy next—anywhere there is no snow." Special memories are

some of the last school activities they enjoyed. It was the prom for Ruut because it was such a "big deal" and so different in Finland. Simone chose graduation because it was also a "big deal," and also different in her country.

For those who would like to know more about hosting or being an exchange student and available scholarships, contact AFS 1-800-876-2377 this week. AFS has sponsored about 90 students at Pampa High since 1952.

## Democrats propose further tax hike on offshore oil

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Democrats are moving to quintuple the tax that oil companies pay into an oil spill liability fund.

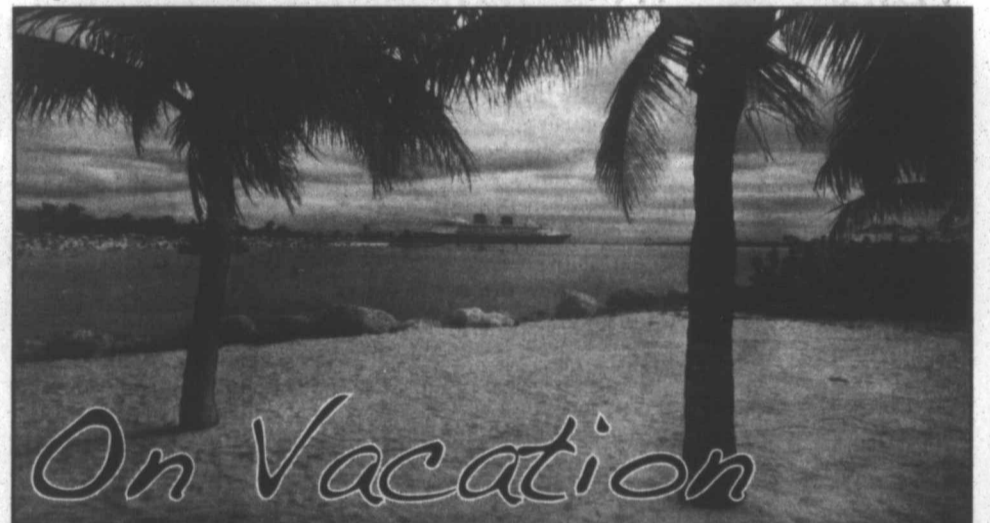
The move would raise \$15 billion over the coming decade as Congress seeks to shore up the fund in the wake of the cata-

strophic spill in the Gulf of Mexico. But it's also being used to ease a tax hike passed by the House on investment fund managers.

The new legislation would raise the tax on oil produced offshore from 8 cents to 41 cents per barrel. That's nine cents higher than legislation that passed

the House last month.

The tax changes are being made as the Senate again takes up grab-bag legislation extending unemployment benefits and a variety of expired tax breaks enjoyed by both individuals and businesses.



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## Today in History

Today is Tuesday, June 8, the 159th day of 2010. There are 206 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On June 8, 1967, during the Six-Day War, 34 U.S. servicemen were killed when Israeli fighter jets and torpedo boats attacked the USS Liberty, a Navy intelligence-gathering ship stationed in the Mediterranean. (Israel later said the Liberty had been mistaken for an Egyptian vessel.)

### On this date:

In A.D. 632, the prophet Muhammad died in Medina.

In 1845, Andrew Jackson, seventh president of the United States, died in Nashville, Tenn.

In 1861, Tennessee seceded from the Union.

In 1864, Abraham Lincoln was nominated for another term as president during the National Union (Republican) Party's convention in Baltimore.

In 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt offered to act as a mediator in the Russo-Japanese War.

In 1915, Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan resigned in a disagreement with President Woodrow Wilson over U.S. handling of the sinking of the Lusitania.

In 1948, the "Texaco Star Theater" made its debut on NBC-TV with Milton Berle guest-hosting the first program. (Berle was later named the show's permanent host.)

In 1966, a merger was announced between the National and American Football Leagues, to take effect in 1970.

In 1978, a jury in Clark County, Nev., ruled the so-called "Mormon will," purportedly written by the late billionaire Howard Hughes, was a forgery.

In 1995, U.S. Marines rescued Capt. Scott O'Grady, whose F-16C fighter jet had been shot down by Bosnian Serbs on June 2.

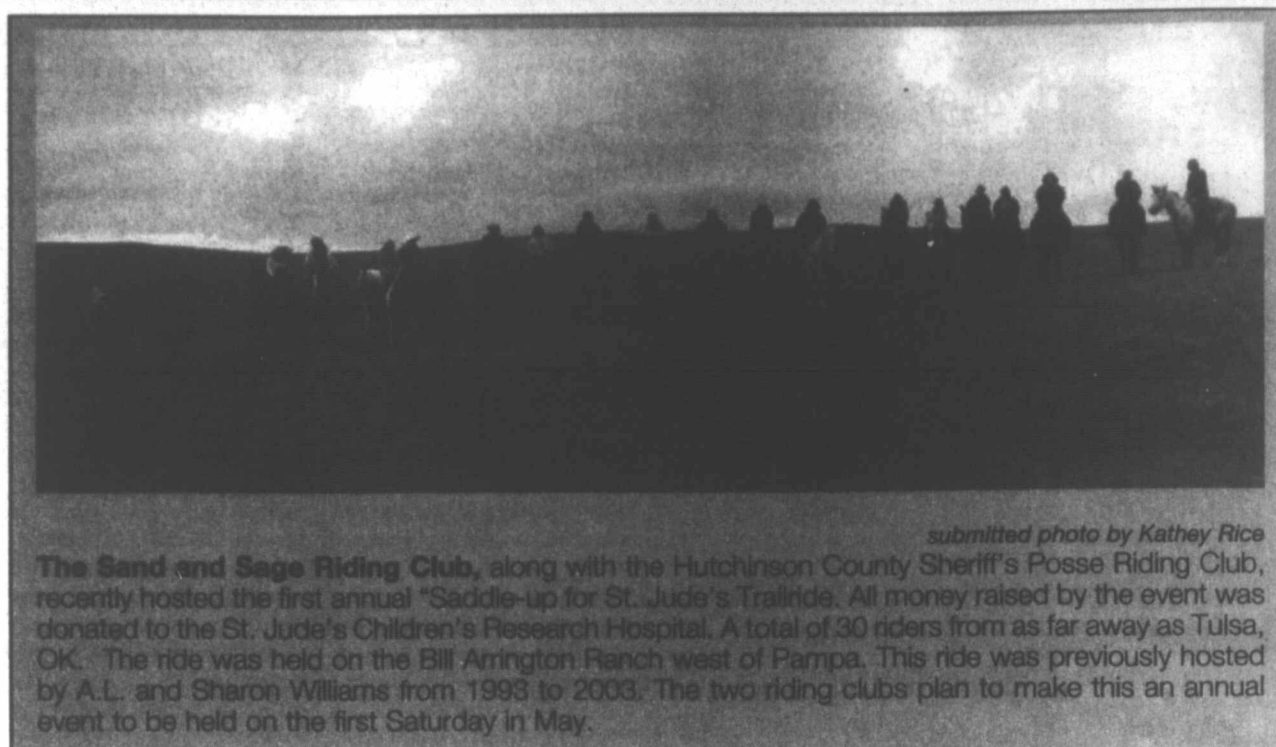
**Ten years ago:** Two gunmen shot to death Brig. Stephen Saunders, a British defense attaché, in Athens, Greece; the elusive terrorist group November 17 claimed responsibility, saying it killed Saunders because of his role in NATO airstrikes against Yugoslavia. Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Jeff MacNally died in Baltimore at age 52.

**Five years ago:** The Senate confirmed California judge Janice Rogers Brown for the federal appeals court, ending a two-year battle. Former Boston Bruins star Cam Neely, the late Valeri Kharlamov and Murray Costello were named to the Hockey Hall of Fame.

**One year ago:** North Korea's highest court sentenced American journalists Laura Ling and Euna Lee to 12 years' hard labor for trespassing and "hostile acts." (The women were pardoned in early August 2009 after a trip to Pyongyang by former President Bill Clinton.) Omar Bongo, 73, the world's longest-serving president who'd ruled Gabon for 42 years, died at a Spanish hospital.

**Today's Birthdays:** Former First Lady Barbara Bush is 85. Actor-comedian Jerry Stiller is 83. Comedian Joan Rivers is 77. Actress Millicent Martin is 76. Actor James Darren is 74. Actor Bernie Casey is 71. Singer Nancy Sinatra is 70. Singer Chuck Negron (Three Dog Night) is 68. Musician Boz Scaggs is 66. Actor Don Grady is 66. Rock musician Mick Box (Uriah Heep) is 63. Author Sara Paretsky is 63. Actress Sonia Braga is 60. Actress Kathy Baker is 60. Country musician Tony Rice is 59. Actor Griffin Dunne is 55. "Dilbert" creator Scott Adams is 53. Actor-director Keenen Ivory Wayans is 52. Singer Mick Hucknall (Simply Red) is 50. Musician Nick Rhodes (Duran Duran) is 48. Rhythm-and-blues singer Doris Pearson (Five Star) is 44. Actress Julianna Margulies is 43. Actor Dan Futterman is 43. Actor David Sutcliffe is 41. Rhythm-and-blues singer Nicci Gilbert is 40. Actress Kelli Williams is 40. Actor Mark Feuerstein is 39. Contemporary Christian musician Mike Scheuchzer (MercyMe) is 35. Rapper Kanye West is 33. Blues-rock musician Derek Trucks (The Derek Trucks Band) is 31. Folk-bluesgrass singer-musician Sara Watkins (Nickel Creek) is 29.

**Thought for Today:** "Malice drinks one-half of its own poison." - Seneca, Roman statesman (circa 5 B.C.-A.D. 65).



The Sand and Sage Riding Club, along with the Hutchinson County Sheriff's Posse Riding Club, recently hosted the first annual "Saddle-up for St. Jude's Trailride. All money raised by the event was donated to the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. A total of 30 riders from as far away as Tulsa, OK. The ride was held on the Bill Arrington Ranch west of Pampa. This ride was previously hosted by A.L. and Sharon Williams from 1993 to 2003. The two riding clubs plan to make this an annual event to be held on the first Saturday in May.

## Officials investigate deadly north Texas natural gas line explosion

CLEBURNE, Texas (AP) — A natural gas explosion in north Texas killed one member of a crew installing utility poles, and authorities were trying to figure out if the gas line had been marked before digging started.

The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration was among numerous agencies at the scene after a utility crew struck a gas line Monday afternoon, sending a massive fireball into the air.

The lone utility worker missing after the blast was found dead Monday night, once searchers could safely walk through the entire charred area. Authorities had hoped the missing man had left the scene on his own, like some of his colleagues who drove themselves to hospitals.

Brian Fine, Hood County's emergency management coordinator, said the worker's body

was found some distance from the blast site. The man's name has not been released.

The worker had been riding a truck drilling holes for utility poles when the line suddenly exploded, and other workers lost sight of him in the intense smoke, said Roger Harmon, Johnson County's top elected official.

Near the blast site in rural Johnson County about 50 miles southwest of Dallas, officials later found the truck upside down and saw that the 2,000-pound drilling component had been ripped off the vehicle and hurled 250 feet away, said Cleburne Fire Chief Clint Ishmael.

At least seven of the other 13 workers who had been working at the site went to hospitals. Gary Marks, CEO of Glen Rose Medical Center, said two people were treated and released, and four others were in sta-

ble condition. One patient was taken to Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth. Spokeswoman Whitney Jodry did not have person's condition.

Laura Harlin, a resident of nearby Granbury, said around the time of the blast she heard a "huge rumbling" that initially sounded like thunder and then like a tornado because it lasted so long.

"For about 10 minutes, it was so loud that it was like there was an 18-wheeler rumbling in your driveway," she said.

The explosion caused confusion among officials in its immediate aftermath, with one city official initially saying three people had been killed.

Heat from the blast forced firefighters to stay about a half-mile away until the gas flow was shut off, and they were unable to douse the flames.

A control room at Houston-based Enterprise Products Partners LP, which owns the gas line, immediately identified a break in the line near Cleburne, said company spokesman Rick Rainey. The 36-inch line was equipped with valves that

automatically shut down gas to that section of pipe, and the fire was out about two hours after the explosion.

The pipeline helps carry gas from West Texas across the state to utilities, distribution companies and commercial users on the eastern end of the state. Rainey said the company would work with customers to avoid any disruption to their service from the fire.

The injured workers were digging for a subcontractor hired by Waco-based Brazos Electric Cooperative. Johnson County's emergency management coordinator, Jack Snow, said. A message seeking comment from that company was not returned. A spokesman for the subcontractor, Oklahoma-based C&H Power Line Construction Services, did not respond to a call for comment either.

The Texas natural gas blast followed one in West Virginia earlier Monday. Seven workers were burned when a drilling crew hit a pocket of methane gas, triggering an explosion in a rural area about 55 miles southwest of Pittsburgh.

## Lawsuit by Mexico's Pemex targets US companies

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's state-run oil company filed a lawsuit Monday against five companies, including the U.S. subsidiary of German chemical maker BASF, for allegedly buying stolen Mexican petroleum products.

Petroleos Mexicanos, or Pemex, says in the lawsuit filed in a Houston court that the companies allegedly profited from the theft of natural gas condensate. It claims at least \$300 million worth of condensate from the Burgos basin in northeast Mexico has been stolen since 2006.

Pemex is asking for at least \$900 million in damages. The suit also names Murphy Energy Corp., Trammo Petroleum Inc., U.S. Petroleum Depot Inc., Valley Fuels and five individuals.

Pemex said the companies have encouraged the theft by "actively participating in the smuggling of stolen condensate into the United States and/or purchasing it for use in Texas."

BASF operates a petrochemical plant in Port

Arthur, Texas. Pemex said the company allegedly purchased at least \$2.4 million worth of stolen condensate from other defendants named in the suit.

Daniel Pepton, a U.S. spokesman for Germany-based BASF, didn't immediately respond to an e-mail seeking comment.

The Mexican government says drug cartels and criminals tap into remote pipelines, sometimes building pipelines of their own, and siphon off hundreds of millions of dollars worth of oil and petroleum products each year.

In the lawsuit, Pemex said gangs have also hijacked tanker trucks on their way to its refineries.

It said the investigation has resulted in the arrest of at least 40 people, including two Mexican customs officers who allowed the trucks to cross into the U.S. with false documents.

"The lawsuit filed by Pemex is the first of its kind in the United States and is the result of an investigation being led with cooperation from the U.S. government," Pemex said in a statement.

## Officials: Border agent shoots suspect at bridge

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — U.S. authorities say a Border Patrol agent shot a male suspect after a confrontation at an international bridge near downtown El Paso.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection spokesman Doug Mosier said preliminary reports indicated one person was shot Monday evening on the U.S. side of the Paso Del Norte bridge, across from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

Mosier referred to the FBI for further comment.

FBI spokeswoman Andrea Simmons said she had no other details, including the whereabouts or condition of the suspect. Simmons said the agent wasn't injured.

Authorities did not immediately release the agent's identity.

Simmons said the FBI was leading the investigation since it involved an assault on an officer.



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**TPA** MEMBER 2010  
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# Sports

## Lady Harvesters hold annual basketball camp

**ANDREW GLOVER**  
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters started their 2010 basketball camp Monday at the high school basketball gyms. Head coach Gene Valentine said they had a

great turnout for the camp. "In both sessions combined we had 60 kids," Valentine said. "It was good and we hope to have a few more tomorrow." The first session included first through fifth grade and Valentine said they

focused on the basic fundamentals. "We taught them how to pass, dribble and shoot the ball," Valentine said. The second session was with sixth through ninth grade and Valentine said they taught some funda-

mentals and more advanced skills. "We worked with them on offense and defense drills," Valentine said. "We taught them some of the plays we run so they can get used to the terminology."

Valentine said it gives him an advantage working with the children before they are in high school. "During first period, I go over to the junior high and work with the seventh and eighth graders," Valentine said. "We get

them used to some of the terminology that they will hear. "So they will have a better understanding when they're in high school. I don't have to do near as much teaching." The camp runs through Friday.



staff photo by **Andrew Glover**  
Emilie Lewis practices shooting at the Lady Harvester basketball camp Monday in the MPAC gym. Campers were taught basic fundamentals.

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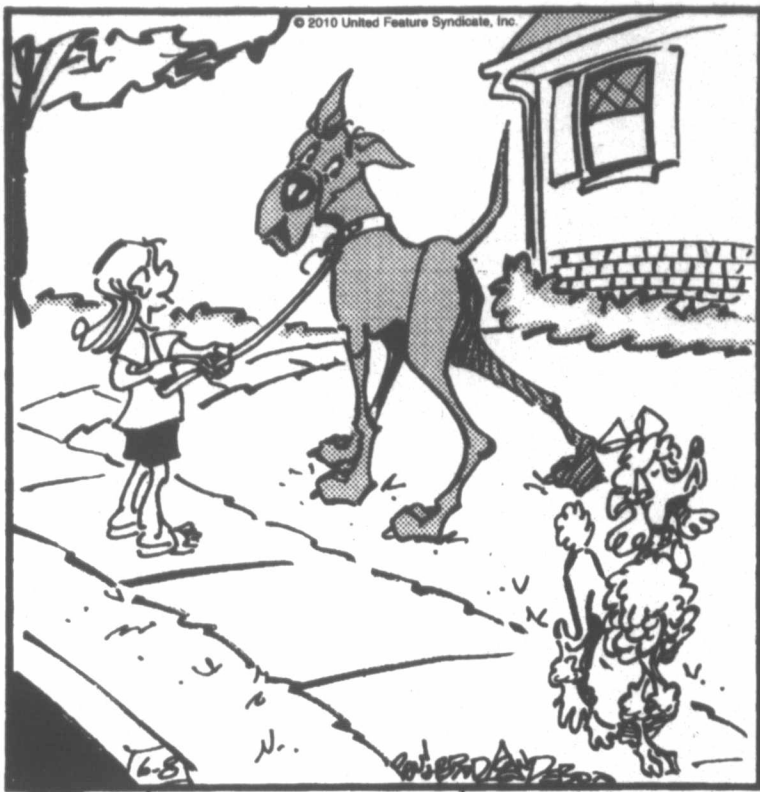
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# Comics

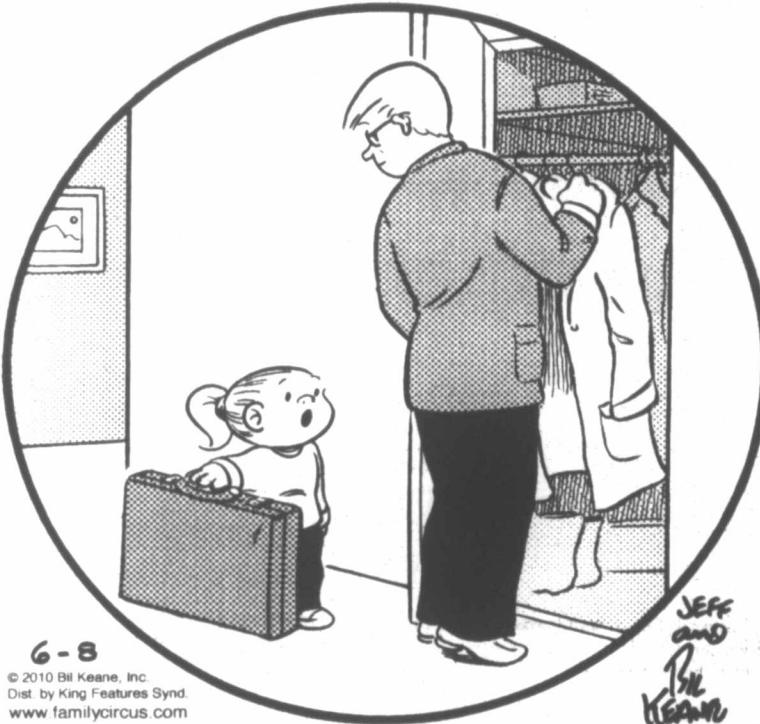
Marmaduke



"She didn't seem very impressed."

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



6-8  
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www.familycircus.com

"Daddy, don't they make a BRIEFER case than this?"

### Daily Crossword Puzzle

#### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 40 Bother
  - 41 Divided
  - 42 Winter quarry
  - 43 Golf pegs
  - 44 Ash
  - 45 Fume
  - 46 Litter
  - 47 Col
  - 48 Footage
  - 49 Ring
  - 50 Edge
  - 51 Dead
- DOWN**
- 1 Rags-to-riches writer
  - 2 Dog medicine
  - 3 Running bird
  - 4 Was ahead
  - 5 Pouchlike parts
  - 6 Tough wood
  - 7 Relax
  - 8 Sprinkle with oil
  - 9 Take out
  - 11 "Misery" director
  - 14 Wise guy
  - 19 Several Russian czars
  - 20 Decks
  - 24 Forge workers
  - 25 Pictures
  - 26 Ranch pen
  - 27 Morphine, for one
  - 29 "Becket" actor
  - 30 Journalist
  - 33 Bird abodes
  - 35 Fast jets
  - 38 June honoree
  - 39 Select

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#### Yesterday's answer

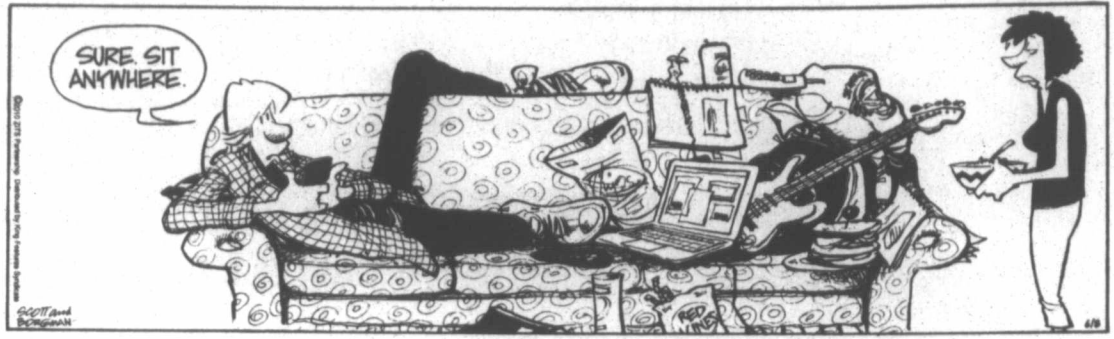
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### For Better Or Worse



Zits



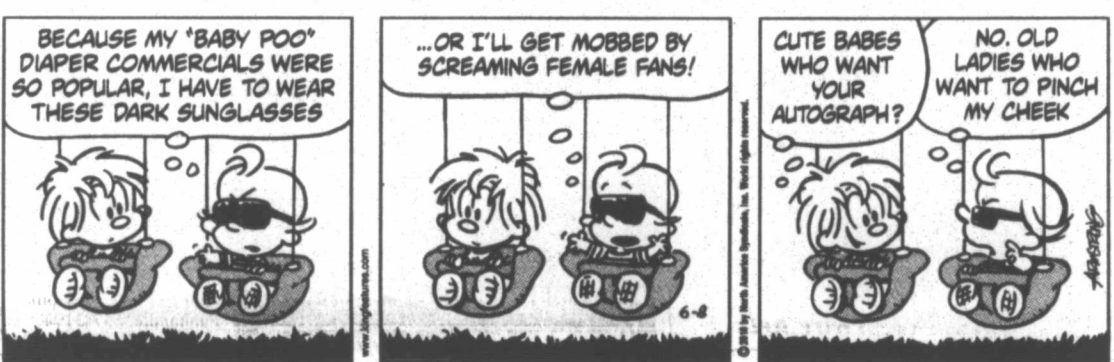
Garfield



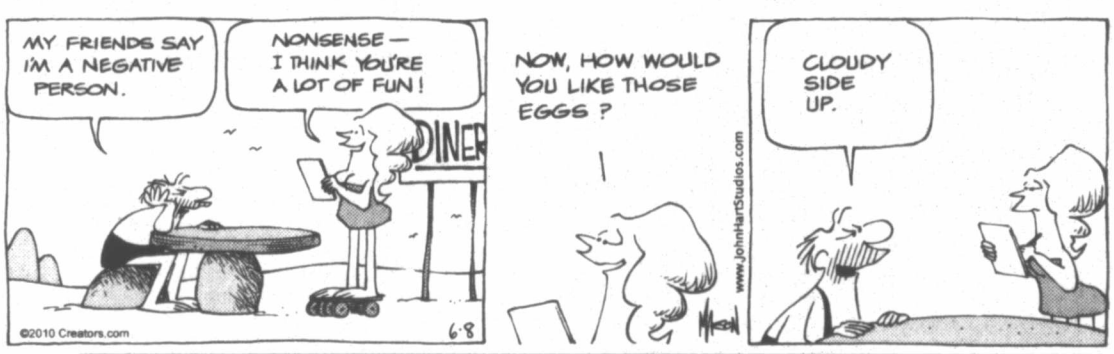
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



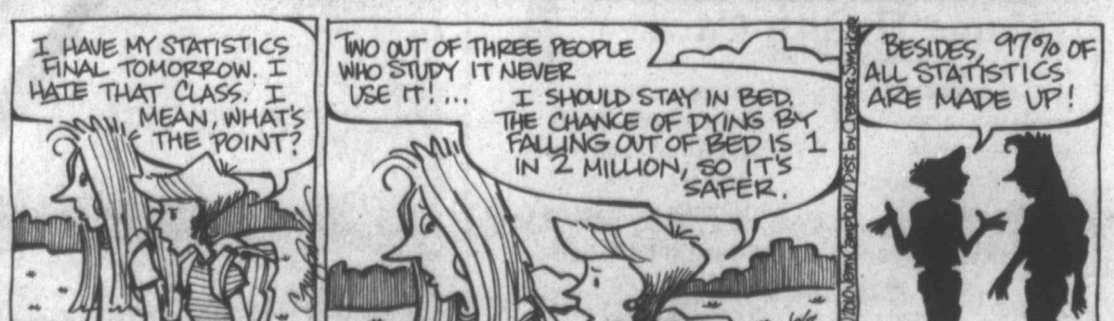
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Flo & Friends



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## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: "Anonymous in Washington State" (March 25) can't stand her 10-year-old daughter but adores her two sons. I have worked for more than 20 years for a nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve parenting and prevent child abuse.

"Anonymous" can access more information from the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services online ([www.dshs.wa.gov](http://www.dshs.wa.gov)) or via telephone at (360) 902-8400 to find out about free or low-cost mental health/counseling services in her area. Parent Trust for Washington Children may be able to provide information on support groups and other services. The phone number is (206) 233-0156. Finally, there is Childhelp USA (800) 422-4453 if she wants to speak to a counselor who can direct her to local services. — SUZANNA IN MILWAUKEE

DEAR SUZANNA: Thank you for sharing some valuable resources. That letter struck a nerve with many readers who reached out to offer help as well as share similar experiences. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: As a teacher, I would occasionally have a student I didn't like. I gave myself the "Ten Rule." I'd make 10 positive comments about the student before I allowed myself to make a negative one. The process worked miracles.

I don't know if I changed because I made the effort to find good qualities, or if the child changed because of the positive input. Before long, I found myself liking and enjoying that student as much as I did the others. — NANCY IN BROUSSARD, LA.

DEAR ABBY: I suffered physical and verbal abuse from my mother, who told me often I was her "ugly" child. The day I checked out of the hospital for depression she told me she had never bonded with me as an infant and that I annoyed her. I suffered from low self-esteem for as far back as I can remember.

I'm almost 40 now, and after thousands of hours of therapy and hard work, I choose to believe that I am worthy and loving. I'm in a healthy marriage and have a 2-year-old daughter. The thought of repeating the pattern of abuse makes me ill. I hope "Anonymous" will do whatever she can to change her attitude toward her daughter. — J.H., LONG BEACH, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: Children mimic what they see. "Anonymous" has two sons who are watching and learning how to treat people, especially women. — READER IN MILES CITY, MONT.

DEAR ABBY: My mother was physically and mentally abusive to me while she doted on my three brothers. I used to pray for someone to rescue me. I vowed never to have children because I feared there was a defect my mother had passed on to me, and I never wanted anyone to feel the way she made me feel. Ironically, my three brothers never even call my mother, and after tons of therapy, I am now her loving caregiver. — BEEN THERE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR ABBY: I am 52 and my heart still aches when I think of how unloved I felt as an awkward 10-year-old. My mother was repulsed by me — an overweight, buck-toothed, loud and unlady-like girl.

After I left home I went on to become a highly successful, beautiful and engaging woman, despite

the flawed vision of myself that had been created by my self-absorbed and verbally abusive mother. Little girls grow up, and what this mother ruins today may haunt her tomorrow. — GROWN UP IN NEW ENGLAND

## Cornyn, Schumer want prepaid cell phone crackdown

NEW YORK (AP) — Alarmed by the use of hard-to-track prepaid cell phones by terror suspects, New York Sen. Chuck Schumer and Texas Sen. John Cornyn have introduced legislation requiring consumers to produce identification before buying such phones.

The bill has been praised by law enforcement and has bipartisan support, even as civil liberties groups have raised privacy concerns and some terror experts say

it won't deter bad behavior. Schumer, a Democrat, and Cornyn, a Republican, are hoping to schedule hearings on the bill through the Judiciary Committee. Schumer has urged Attorney General Eric Holder to back the measure.

Phone companies sold \$16 billion worth of prepaid cell phones last year, and the devices are hugely popular in both the U.S. and countries around the world.

But since the phones can be purchased anonymously and are thrown away after use, they've long been a favored tool of drug dealers, gang members and even white-collar criminals looking to cover their tracks.

In recent years, such phones also have been linked to suspected terror activity — including that by Faisal Shahzad, the Pakistani-American accused of plotting to bomb Times Square. Law

enforcement officials said Shahzad had used a prepaid cell phone to purchase a car in which to hide the bomb and to communicate with co-conspirators in Pakistan.

A handful of states and several countries require registration to purchase a prepaid cell phone. In an interview, Schumer said the Shahzad case, combined with the growing use of prepaid cell phones in criminal cases, had persuaded him that federal regulation was needed.

## PERSONAL HEALTH TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

# New Hearing Aids Are Now Totally Invisible

They provide new technology and appearance.

Sleek and stylish. Spontaneous and active.

The adjectives sound like an ideal romantic partner. But the description doesn't apply to someone who will hang breathlessly on your every word; rather, it's something that can help you hear virtually every word.

Hearing aid brochures and ads are touting the virtues of the latest technology to counter hearing loss, whether the cause be listening to eardrum-rattling music, side effects of a myriad of prescriptions or simply age.

Hearing aids these days can be digital, programmed and remote-controlled. The technology has come a long way from the brass horns that passed for

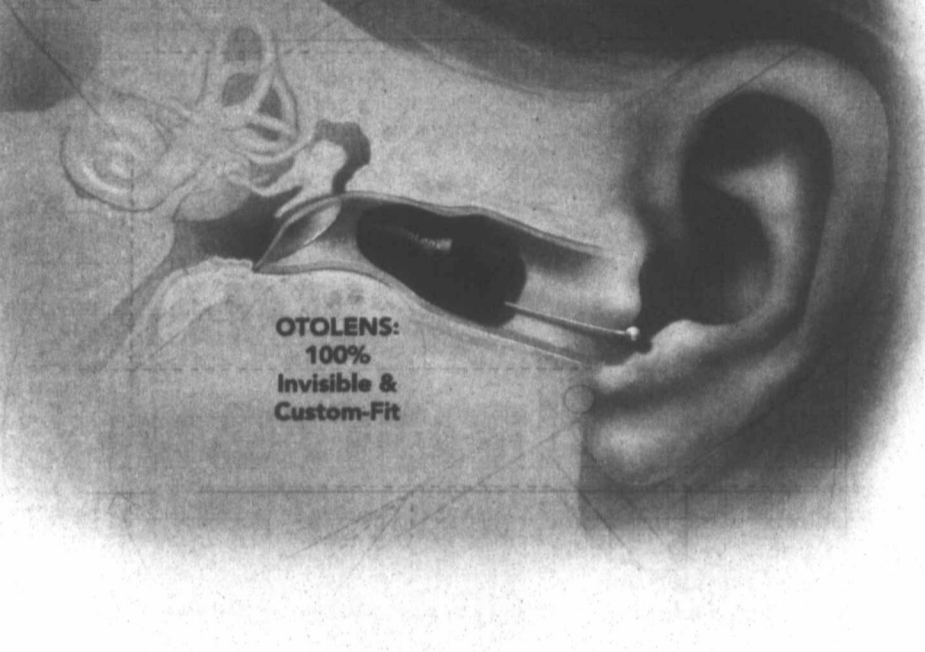
hearing aids in the late 19th century.

With digital processing, sound enters the microphone, is converted into computer code, cleaned up and processed before being fed into the ear — just like taking the scratches out of a vinyl record and making it sound like a CD or MP3 player.

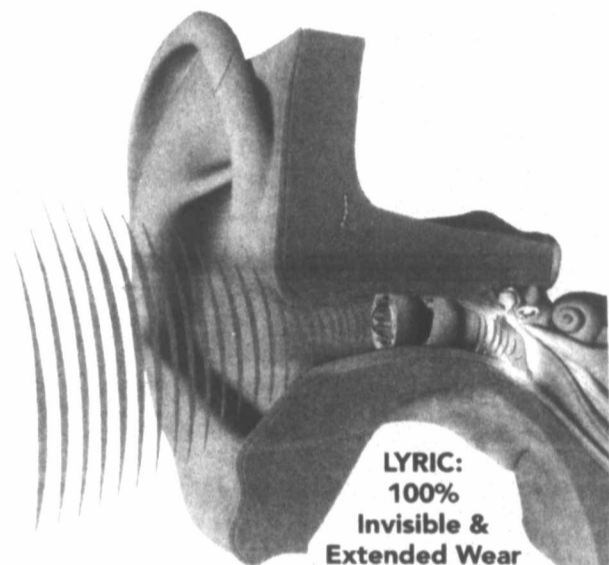
With dual microphones, one microphone listens for speech and lifts it or clarifies it; the other microphone listens for the junk, the background noise, and uses it to muffle it.

### VISUAL APPEAL

Besides the difference in what you hear, there's a difference in what you see. Or should I say what you don't see, like in the new Starkey OtoLens and the Lyric. Besides the cosmetic difference, the aids are more



OTOLENS: 100% Invisible & Custom-Fit



LYRIC: 100% Invisible & Extended Wear

comfortable and totally invisible in your ear.

The OtoLens from Starkey is custom-fit to your ear canal making it invisible. It comes with a three year factory warranty and a three year supply of batteries (see store for details).

Also available is a new extended wear product called Lyric. It is the world's first 100% invisible hearing device worn 24/7 for up to 4 months at a time, while sleeping, showering, and exercising. There are no batteries to change. There is no daily insertion or removal required. Lyric is designed to closely mimic the way you hear naturally. Lyric is truly 24/7 hearing with no daily hassles. Lyric is sold on an annual subscription basis.

### INCREASING NEED

These days, one in six Americans has a hearing loss equal to that of placing a finger in one or both ears, according to a recent Johns Hopkins University study. That's double previous estimates, with the problem growing faster among younger adults, many of whom listen to their iPods and MP3 players with small earbuds worn within the ear and the volume cranked up way too loud.

It's a combination of the baby boomer generation and the iPod generation. For some it's too late, because loud noises have permanently destroyed sensory cells vital to hearing. Moreover, by age 55 hearing generally decreases. About 30 percent of people age 70

and older have some degree of hearing loss — although not necessarily enough to require hearing aids.

The best way to know if you have a hearing loss is to have your hearing checked by an audiologist or hearing instrument dispenser at least one time per year. You may find that you just have earwax accumulated in your ear, or you may find that you could benefit from the use of hearing aids. A hearing loss is far more noticeable than a hearing aid.

To learn more about these types of products, call Livingston Hearing Aid Centers. In Pampa, 701 North Hobart, 1-888-820-6601.

# INTRODUCING

## WORLD'S FIRST INVISIBLE-IN-THE-CANAL

The only 100% custom, invisible, digital and fully programmable hearing aid.

### S Series™, the world's top-selling hearing aid, introduces a completely invisible option.

# 100% INVISIBLE

"I invite you to take the **10 DAY** challenge - you'll be glad you did!" *Len Slesick*

Think hearing aids should be heard, not seen? Then the new S-Series OtoLens by Starkey is for you. OtoLens is the first custom fit invisible-in-the-canal hearing aid, featuring the latest, most advanced technology on the market today — meaning it's completely invisible, and totally designed to fit your lifestyle.

Join us this week for our Open House

**Wed., June 9th**

this week at **Livingston**  
Audiology & Hearing Aid Center

• Learn more about hearing loss  
• Preview OtoLens, the latest advancement from Starkey  
• Get a FREE, no-obligation hearing consultation  
• Save 50% off MSRP if you take the 10 day challenge.

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