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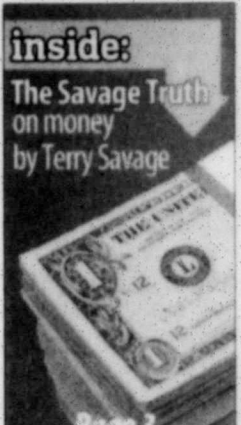


TODAY IN SPORTS

Business as usual

Softball team confident despite changes

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PPRO's Hughes decries tax exemption cuts

DAVID BOWSER
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

AMARILLO — As the state legislature wrestles with budget shortfalls, a White Deer native who represents oil and gas interests in the Panhandle said urban legislators who want to do away with a tax exemption for producers are short sighted.

Wayne Hughes, executive

vice president of the Panhandle Producers and Royalty Owners Association, proposed cuts to tax exemptions could damage the panhandle's horizontal drilling and production and that would lead to harming the local economy.

Hughes said that the natural gas exploration industry produces more in high cost gas than the state would gain in doing away

with the severance tax exemption.

"We produce more in economic activity than the state would gain during the tax exemption," said Hughes.

There is a proposal to revoke the exemption that the industry has had for about eight years now, said Hughes.

"We only pay about half the severance tax on high cost gas

than that paid on other kinds of gas," he said.

The reason, he said, is because of the expense in drilling the horizontal wells to produce it.

"High cost gas is by definition horizontal drilling," he said.

Most of the high cost gas is in the five eastern counties of the Texas Panhandle.

Hughes said that presently there

HUGHES cont. on page 5

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BOARD WORK

Hard at work on the leisure pool at the Pampa Aqua Park, Hank Nunn braves 37-degree weather and brisk winds today as the pool project moves toward completion for next summer.

staff photo by **David Bowser**

Standerfer benefit seeks sponsorship

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

The friends and family of ailing Lynzzy Standerfer are organizing a benefit run and are looking to the community for sponsorship help.

Standerfer, 10, is a Lefors fifth-grader currently in the pediatric ICU of Amarillo's Northwest Hospital battling acute myeloid leukemia. She was diagnosed in October of last year (80 percent of her bone marrow was found to be cancerous), and she has since undergone four of six rounds of chemotherapy.

Family friend Deborah Henson said today that a benefit run is being organized to help the Standerfers defray the costs of Lynzzy's treatments. The event is set for 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 9, and will include a 5K run, one mile walk and one mile bike ride.

Henson said that sponsors are currently being accepted to make the event possible.

"What we're looking for is individuals or businesses to donate money to be designated as sponsors for the benefit run," Henson said. "It's a minimum of \$25 to be a sponsor, and we'll put all the sponsors names on the back of the t-shirts that we'll give everyone who takes part in the run."

STANDERFER cont. on page 5

Zoning proposal on commission agenda

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

The Pampa City Commission will hear on first reading today a proposal to change the zoning on the old Pampa Junior High School.

The Pampa Planning and Zoning Commission voted four-to-one Monday afternoon to change the zoning for the old school from Single Family 2 to Commercial.

Meeting in the city commission chambers in a 17-minute meeting, the Pampa Planning and Zoning Commission heard from Pampa lawyer Ken Fields, representing the Pampa Independent School District, and from James Richardson, a Pampa citizen concerned about taxes.

Fields said the only reason the school system was asking for a change was to enhance the property's value for sale.

With the construction of the new Pampa Junior High School, the old junior high building will be vacated.

Earlier interest in selling the old junior high for use as

CITY cont. on page 5

EAGLES IN GRAY COUNTY HIGH FLYER

photo courtesy of **Randy Millican**

Making a President's Day cameo, bald eagles were spotted soaring over Gray County on Monday.

Awards Banquet
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AFTERNOON RUSH

No textbooks in state budget

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas lawmakers dealing with a projected \$15 billion shortfall in the next two-year spending period have offered base budget proposals without any bucks for new textbooks.

Before a 2009 Texas curriculum overhaul, children were working with science textbooks most recently updated in 1997, the Austin American-Statesman reported late Monday.

Texas, with 4.6 million public school students, is facing tougher testing. The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness focuses on college readiness and will count toward graduation requirements. A dozen mandatory exams for high school students will be phased in over four years.

The State Board of Education last fall, anticipating a possible state revenue shortfall, asked the Legislature for supplemental science materials accessible online, at a cost of about \$60 million. Books would have pushed the cost to \$347 million.

Education Commissioner Robert Scott is asking for about \$520 million in updated instructional materials for the fall, for online science and new language arts materials based on recently updated standards.

The request was ignored.

Houston man to be executed

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — A 42-year-old Houston man is headed to the Texas death chamber for the 2002 fatal shooting his 19-month-old namesake son after an hours-long standoff with police.

Timothy Wayne Adams is scheduled for execution today for the death of his son, Timothy Jr., who was shot twice at close range by his father after a police standoff at his family's apartment.

His attorneys planned a final appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. Last week, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals dismissed a request to review his case.

Prosecutors said the slaying was intended as retaliation against his wife because she was leaving him.

Defense attorneys argued the killing was an aberration in an otherwise law-abiding life.

Adams would be the second Texas prisoner put to death this year.

Eisenhower birthplace marked

DENISON (AP) — The North Texas birthplace of Dwight D. Eisenhower honored his memory with a monument being dedicated on President's Day.

City dignitaries on Monday dedicated the President Dwight D. Eisenhower Veterans Monument to salute the late 34th U.S. president. The monument features a 16-foot bust sculpted by artist David Adickes and also includes five flagpoles to represent the five branches of military service.

Eisenhower was born in 1890, but his family moved to Abilene, Kan. Within his first year. He was the supreme commander of U.S. and allied forces during World War II and president in 1953-61. Eisenhower died in 1969.

Denison is a community of 25,000, located 65 miles north of Dallas.

Court rejects spotted owl appeal

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court has decided to let stand a Bush administration designation of 8.6 million acres in four Western states as critical habitat for an endangered owl.

The justices today rejected an appeal from cattle ranchers that challenged the designation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and lower court rulings that upheld it.

The designation covers land in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah that is critical habitat for the Mexican spotted owl. The designation is aimed at protecting the habitat from activities that remove forest cover, including logging, cattle grazing, urban sprawl or power lines.

The case is Arizona Cattle Growers' Association v. Salazar, 10-454.

Top officials attend funeral

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — Mourners have filled an event center for the funeral service of a federal agent killed in Mexico.

Many law enforcement and border security personnel are among the mourners who are honoring Immigration and Customs Enforcement Special Agent Jaime Zapata.

Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder are among those expected to speak in Zapata's hometown today.

The 32-year-old Zapata and another agent were shot on a highway in Mexico last week.

A financial strategy guide to 2011

TERRY SAVAGE
Creator's Syndicate



Last week *The Savage Truth on Money* presented *Seven Lessons Learned as part of a financial strategy guide to 2011. Here are an equal number of suggestions about what we should be doing now.*

SEVEN STEPS TO TAKE NOW

1. Help someone else get a job.

That's unusual financial advice for the top of my list, but if you think about it, it really makes sense. We need a united effort to get people back to work. So to the extent that you have some ability to offer a job — at any level — to someone who needs work, just do it! Take the risk of putting someone back on your payroll.

Yes, it has to make sense for a small business to hire — but clearly the economy is coming back, so why not be first? And, you don't have to be a business to hire someone for pay. There are out-of-work people in construction trades who now have the time and incentive to do those home repairs you've been postponing. There are men and women who have lost jobs, and who need the part-time work, and could add value — if you tell the boss about their qualifications. Step up to this challenge.

2. Face up to planning for retirement.

This is your own personal challenge, and it's growing more important by the day as state programs fail to keep pace with the needs of retirees. No matter what your age, go to www.choosetosave.org and click on the "Ballpark Estimate." You'll learn how much more you need to save so you'll have a good chance at a reasonable lifestyle in retirement. Your planning for retirement should start with your first job — but it is never too late to face reality.

Increase your retirement plan contributions at work. Don't check your investment balance every week, since this is a long-term project. Time leverages money, and your time horizon will extend past your official retirement date, hopefully for many years.

If you would like some respected free advice on allocating your retirement plan investments, go to www.TerrySavage.com and click on the box for "Financial Engines." This is a retirement advisory program used by the nation's top employers. Clicking on this box at my website will give you a one-year free trial.

3. Deal with student loans.

Did you know that the government can deduct unpaid student loans from your Social Security payments? That is a huge irony — the fact that the government knows the burden of student loans is so huge that you might be paying them off when you are a senior citizen!

Student loans cannot be wiped out through the bankruptcy process — and they can accumulate huge amounts of interest that will bury you and affect

your lifestyle because your payment status may be reported to the credit bureaus.

It's far better to face up to them right now. If you can't, remember which lenders have which loans, go to the National Student Loan Data System at www.nslds.ed.gov. You can log in and see the loan amounts, lenders and repayment status for all your federal student loans. If some of your loans aren't listed because they are from private lenders, your college may have a record of those — if the lenders haven't contacted you already.

Check out the federal government's "income-based repayment plan" options at www.studentaid.ed.gov. The most important thing you can do for your future is to face up to your student loans today. Remember: While some programs allow you to stretch out repayment, that only adds to the interest burden.

4. Give yourself a property insurance checkup.

When you're struggling, it's tough to think about spending money on insurance. But just think about how much worse off you might be without insurance — whether homeowners, renters or auto — in case of an unexpected crisis. It doesn't cost anything to sit down with a qualified agent and go over your entire financial situation and exposure. And by combining homeowners and auto, you might qualify for discounts. Check to see if you could spend your insurance dollars more wisely. Consider raising the deductible on your homeowners or auto insurance while increasing the overall coverage. Make sure you're insured for replacement cost — not just the current depreciated value of your assets. Consider an "umbrella" liability policy to cover you for unusual events or losses, beyond the basic coverage in your auto or homeowner's policies. Remember, preparation is the best insurance of all.

5. Prepare for emergencies.

Update your will or revocable living trust. You don't need a huge "estate" to have an estate plan. In fact, most of the important decisions you should make are not about money. Make sure you have created a health care power of attorney and a living will — and that you have given a copy of each to your primary physician, as well as a trusted family member. If you are unable to make medical decisions for yourself, you want your wishes to be followed.

Similarly, make sure that you have named beneficiaries on all your retirement accounts. Consider giving a "springing power of attorney" for busi-

ness decisions to someone you trust to act if you are incapacitated. This is not a "do-it-yourself" project. See a lawyer who specializes in estate planning to make sure your decisions will not be contested after you are gone.

6. Weigh long-term care insurance.

I know I've become a nag on this subject — but only because I see it as a coming disaster for an entire generation. Here in Illinois, the state is already way behind on its bills to state-funded nursing homes. And that's where you'll find yourself if you can't afford \$6,500 a month or more for private care at home or in assisted living. I always remind women that we are especially vulnerable because we live longer and outlast the men around us. Long-term care insurance policies provide assistance with finding and scheduling care, as well as paying for it. That's going to be particularly important to older women who are alone.

7. Get qualified help.

Be careful about whom you trust to give you advice. Always ask how the person is compensated, which must either be by a set fee, an hourly rate or by a commission that may be hidden in the price of a product you buy.

To find a Certified Financial Planner in your area, go to www.cfp.net. The first meeting should be free. Trust your instincts, but ask questions (see page 3) and verify their answers by contacting references. "Fee-only" planners can be found through NAPFA (the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors) at www.napfa.org.

To check out a broker or brokerage firm's disciplinary history, go to www.fina.org; then click on "individual" and then on "broker check." This is the first place to start before opening an account. Never give any broker or financial adviser a power of attorney to act or trade on your behalf. You must always retain the responsibility to approve transactions.

To find out about the professional background, employment history and disciplinary history of an investment adviser, you can click on the link to the SEC on the Fina BrokerCheck page — or go directly to www.adviserinfo.sec.gov.

To find an elder law attorney, go to www.naela.org, and click on the red box to search for a qualified elder law attorney in your area. These lawyers not only make estate plans and wills, but are also trained to represent older people in managing and distributing their assets.

Take it one step at a time. That's the only way to move forward and profit from the lessons we've learned. And that's *The Savage Truth*.

Terry Savage is a registered investment adviser and is on the board of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. She appears weekly on WMAQ-Channel 5's 4:30 p.m. newscast, and can be reached at www.terrysavage.com.

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 22, the 53rd day of 2011. There are 312 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 22, 1732, the first president of the United States, George Washington, was born in Westmoreland County in the Virginia Colony.

On this date:

In 1784, a U.S. merchant ship, the Empress of China, left New York for the Far East to trade goods with China.

In 1810, according to some sources, Polish composer Frederic Chopin was born (Chopin, however, claimed March 1 as his birthday.)

In 1862, Jefferson Davis, already the provisional president of the Confederacy, was inaugurated for a six-year term following his election in Nov. 1861.

In 1909, the Great White Fleet, a naval task force sent on a round-the-world voyage by President Theodore Roosevelt, returned after more than a year at sea.

In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge delivered the first radio broadcast from the White House as he addressed the country over 42 stations.

In 1959, the inaugural Daytona 500 race was held, although Johnny Beauchamp was initially declared the winner, the victory was later awarded to Lee Petty.

In 1973, the United States and China agreed to establish liaison offices.

In 1980, the "Miracle on Ice" took place in Lake Placid, N.Y., as the United States Olympic hockey team upset the Soviets, 4-3. (The U.S. team went on to win the gold medal.)

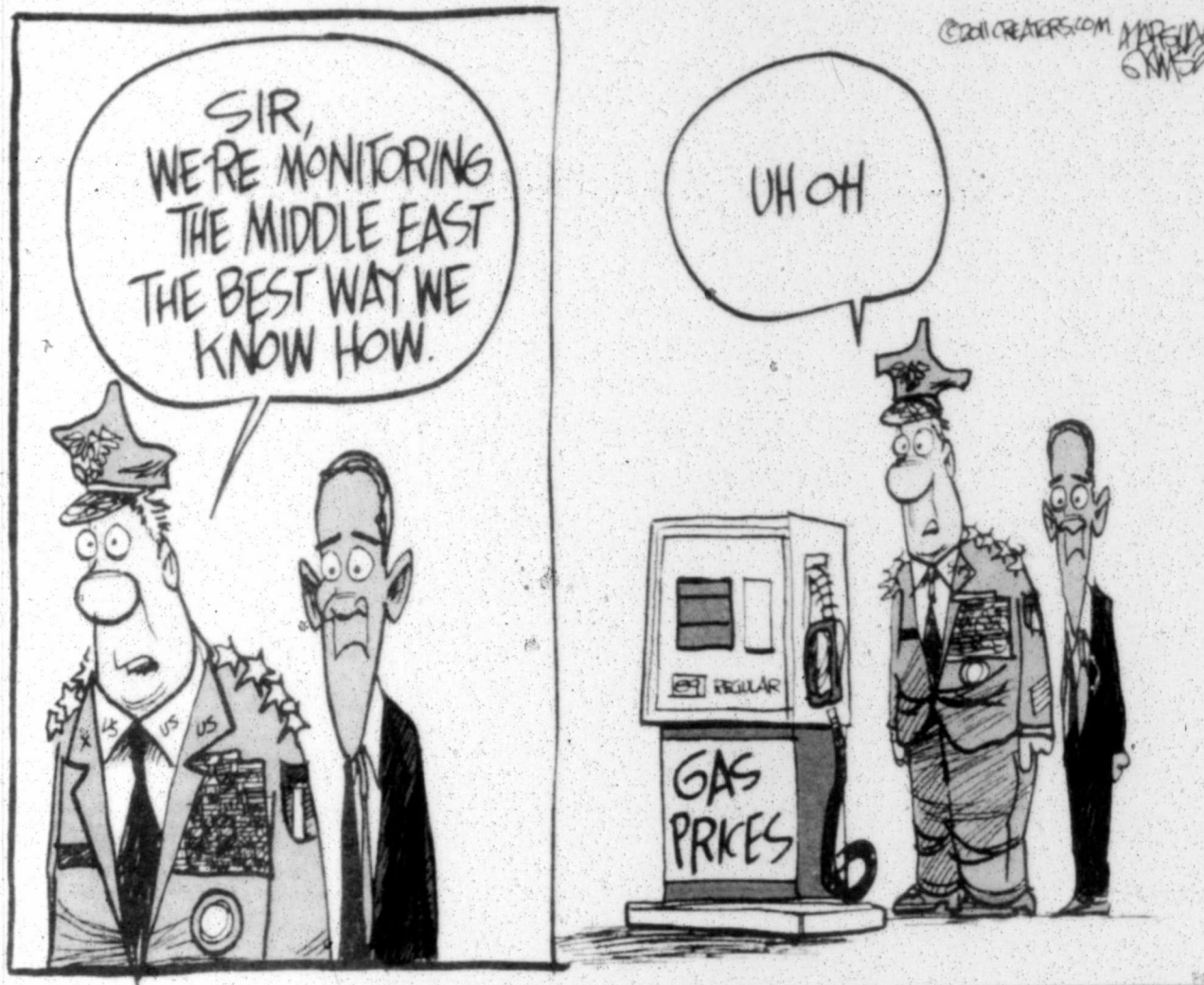
Ten years ago: President George W. Bush held his first full-fledged presidential news conference, in which he defended his tax-cutting and budget-tightening plans and gave FBI director Louis Freeh a vote of confidence following the arrest of veteran agent Robert Hanssen on spying charges.

Five years ago: Thieves stole \$96 million from a Bank of England cash depot 30 miles southeast of London in Britain's largest cash robbery. (Six men were later convicted and almost half of the money was recovered.)

One year ago: Najibullah Zazi, accused of buying beauty supplies to make bombs for an attack on New York City subways, pleaded guilty to conspiring to use weapons of mass destruction, conspiring to commit murder in a foreign country and providing material support for a terrorist organization.

Today's Birthdays: Announcer Don Pardo is 93. Actor Paul Dooley is 83. Movie director Jonathan Demme (DEE-mee) is 67. Actor John Ashton is 63. Actress Miou-Miou is 61. Actress Julie Walters is 61. Basketball Hall of Famer Julius Erving is 61. Actress Ellen Greene is 60. Actor Kyle MacLachlan is 52. Actor Paul Lieberstein is 44. Actress Jeri Ryan is 43. Actor Thomas Jane is 42. Actress Jamara Mello is 41. Actress-singer Lea Salonga is 40. Actor Jose Solano is 40. Rock musician Scott Phillips is 38. Actress-Drew Barrymore is 36. Actress Liza Huber is 36. Singer James Blunt is 34. Actor Zach Roerig is 26. Actor Daniel E. Smith is 21.

Thought for Today: "Authority without wisdom is like a heavy ax without an edge, fitter to bruise than polish." *Time* *Broadstreet* American poet (1612-1672)



Why do they hate Social Security?

Among the mysteries of modern politics in America is why so many of our leading pundits and politicians — persistently seek to undermine Social Security, that enduring and successful emblem of active government.

In the current atmosphere of budgetary panic, self-proclaimed "centrists" are joining with ideologues of the right in yet another campaign against the program — and yet again they are misinforming the public about its purposes, costs and prospects.

Among the puzzling aspects of the crusade against Social Security is the zeal that animates its enemies, as if the present and future recipients of those monthly checks were somehow fattening themselves at the expense of future generations. Whatever drives these well-fed but poorly informed commentators, it isn't the facts.

First, let's remember that Social Security actually provides support at a very modest level. Last year, the average retirement benefit was \$1,170 a month, or about \$14,000 a year, with the average disabled worker or widow receiving slightly less. (It would be wonderful educational for the cable

talkers and newspaper editorialists to live on that amount for a few months — they would not only lose weight but gain empathy.)

Remember, too, that despite our status as the largest and most productive economy in the world, Social Security is among the least generous retirement programs among all the developed nations.

As a percentage of the average worker's pre-retirement wages, the benefit has been declining for years and will continue to fall without any further cutbacks.

The check that used to replace 39 percent of worklife income will replace only 31 percent by 2031. Compare that with the average wage replacement in the nations belonging to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) — which was roughly 61 percent last year.

More important than those comparative statistics is the fact that the great majority of Social Security beneficiaries have no other cushion for their retirement — not because they were lazy or improvident, but because their wages were simply too low to permit much savings, let alone investment.

The foes of Social

Security insist that they have no desire to force the elderly to eat cat food or go homeless — as they did in the years before the program existed. But we must cut drastically, they cry, because we can simply no longer afford the "entitlements" that we have bestowed so lavishly upon the old and the poor.

Whenever someone starts to talk about "entitlements," keep in mind that they are either trying to bamboozle or they've been bamboozled themselves.

Under that category, most commentators mix up Medicaid and Medicare — two programs that are indeed endangered by rising health care costs — with Social Security, which will be solvent until at least 2037 and easily be made solvent or decades to come with minor changes.

This is a rhetorical deception perpetrated countless times every day in nearly every media outlet.

The actuarial experts whose job is to monitor Social Security's fortunes have long assured us that small and gradual rises in the tax revenues that support Social Security, accompanied by small and gradual shifts in benefits over the coming years, will solve whatever fiscal challenges the program may eventually confront.

There is no reason to panic, and there is certainly no reason to consider wholesale changes in benefits.

Well, there is a reason, but only if your real aim is to destroy the system and replace it with something less useful but more profitable.

Wall Street and its servants on Capitol Hill have lusted after Social Security's revenues for many years. And they regard the current uproar over the budget as a fresh opportunity to get their hands on a trillion-dollar bonanza.

Given their record in recent years, it is all too easy to imagine how badly that would work out for everybody — except them, of course.

Joe Conason is a nationally syndicated columnist.



JOE CONASON

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Letter to the Editor

Let's take care of our critters

To the Editor:

I would like to encourage the folks of Pampa to consider adopting a family pet from the Pampa Animal Control.

There are many happy, healthy wonderful dogs and cats (including many purebreds such as dachshunds, boxers, and Siamese cats) that would love to be a permanent addition to your family.

There are also many cute and cuddly mixed-breeds available for adoption that often have fewer health problems than pure-breeds and are one-of-a-kind!

All animals adopted from Pampa Animal Control are vaccinated, micro-chipped, and sent with a spay/neuter voucher.

Pet care and vet visits are expensive, but adopting a dog or cat from a shelter is an excellent way to reduce the initial costs of vaccinating and spaying/neutering a new pet, as well as an opportunity to save a life.

In addition to adopting an animal from Pampa Animal Control or a rescue group, please remember to spay or neuter your pet.

If you cannot afford to do so, contact a rescue group or fellow animal lover that may be able to help with the cost.

The only way to prevent the needless euthanizing of hundreds of dogs and

cats in Pampa every year is to prevent unwanted litters and adopt animals that need a home.

Also if you cannot keep your family pet, place an ad in the newspaper or contact a rescue group and try to find it a good home.

The Pampa Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) is a newly-formed nonprofit that is trying to reduce the number of animals that are euthanized every year in Pampa.

If you cannot adopt a dog or cat, perhaps you could donate some much-needed volunteer time with PAWS? Either way, let's take care of our critters, Pampa!

Jennifer Timmer
Former Pampa Resident

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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.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.
- The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of The Pampa News or its staff.

Standerfer

cont. from page 1

Organizers are currently projecting 100 runners, Henson said, and are seeking upwards of 25 sponsors to accommodate that number of participants. Volunteers who could contribute their time or refreshments during the event would also be welcome.

Henson said that the community so far has been very responsive to

"We went out yesterday (to find sponsors) and had a really good response so far," she said. "There's been really a lot of support, but (the Standerfers) need a lot of support."

As for Lynnzy, Henson said that she is currently fighting an enlarged heart due to complications from her medicine. Still, Henson added, Lynnzy has been in extraordinarily good spirits given the circumstances.

"She's really an awesome, amazing kid. She's got a really positive outlook. She's had a lot of faith. Times have been down, but she's been doing great."

For information about becoming a sponsor, contact Deborah at 806-662-6759. For questions about participating in the fun run, call Henson, Sandra Pairsh at 806-835-2929 or Jeanne Swires at 806-835-1440.

Hughes

cont. from page 1

are probably 35 or 40 such wells in the Pampa trade area.

"Each drilling rig is on site for about 20 days," he said. The well is drilled down about 10,000 feet before it goes horizontal in a rock formation that contains natural gas.

"Each one of those drilling rigs has a basic crew of nine hourly workers who average \$20 an hour," Hughes said. That's about \$30,000 per rig just in wages for 20 days.

Hughes said that most statisticians figure each dollar circulates four times before it is absorbed into the economy.

That means that just the wages for one well would be over \$100,000 in less than a month.

"In addition to that kind of economic activity," Hughes said, "you've got fuel that goes to the rig to power the generators. You've got various kinds of specialized companies that provide services to the rig during its operation."

Those are in addition to the money paid to geologists and engineers.

"That's just during the drilling process," he said. At that point, Hughes said, it really isn't relevant whether or not the well is a success.

"Just finishing the drilling process is about a \$1.2 million to \$1.8 million process," he said.

If natural gas is found, getting the well to produce adds another \$800,000 to the cost.

"It's not at all unusual to spend two million dollars before the first molecule of methane enters the pipeline," Hughes said.

That two million dollars roll through the economy, generating as much as \$8 million in economic activity.

Getting oil and gas out of the ground to refining it, Hughes said, constitutes about 28 percent of the state's income.

"It means that we pay eight times as much," Hughes said, "per employee in taxes as any other industry in Texas. We do more than our share."

BANANAGRAMS!

Each of the two-letter groups below may be extended both on the right and the left to form a six-letter word. Use the tiles directly above each group, fill in the blanks.

B C E H R Y

□ R E □

E H N O S T

□ M E □

E H N O S W

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City

cont. from page 1

a drug and alcohol rehabilitation clinic has died, Fields said.

He told the planning and zoning commission that the rezoning has no connection to the rehabilitation clinic proposal.

"That proposal fell through," Fields said. "There was no sale there."

Fields said the school district is charged with being the steward of the taxpayers' dollars.

"As a part of being a good steward, particularly in today's tough economic climate for school systems," Fields said, "the school board decided that it was their duty to enhance the value of this property prior to spending substantial sums of money on demolition and asbestos abatement."

The estimate to demolish the old junior high and abate the asbestos problem there, he said, will cost the school district almost one million dollars.

"That is an enormous expense for this district," Fields said.

He said that the Pampa school district is projected to lose from \$2.4 million to \$3.6 million in state funding because of shortfalls in Austin. Spending another million dollars on demolishing the old junior high building would cost the school district even more.

"Nobody knows how that's going to shake out with the state budget concerns," Fields said.

The Texas Legislature is presently dealing with that issue in the Capitol.

"Those are teachers' jobs that we're looking at," he said, "and if we can avoid spending a million dollars just to tear a building down and remove what is going to amount to an eyesore in the community, it's our duty to do that."

In order to do that and in order to reap a return for the school district and its taxpayers, Fields said the building and land of the old junior high would have a higher value as a commercial district.

"That is the entire reason we're making this request," Fields said.

To allay Richardson's concerns, Darville Orr, who chaired the planning and zoning commission meeting, explained that if the property could be sold as a commercial property, it would come onto the city's tax rolls. As a school, it is not on the tax rolls.

Orr also said that the property around the school that is zoned as Single Family 2 would remain zoned as Single Family 2.

PSD Superintendent Barry Haenisch said changing the zoning would make it easier to sell and that should increase

the tax base, that is, it would increase the property in town that is taxed.

"It would go from a non-taxable plot of land," Haenisch said, "it would become taxable."

"That would occur after it sells," said public works director Donny Hooper.

Hooper said that his office sent out more than 40 letters notifying residents around the old junior high of the planning and zoning meeting. He said they received only seven replies back.

One, he said, had no comments on it. Five were in favor of the zoning change. One person protested the zoning change.

Hooper said the protest letter indicated a fear that property values would go down and trash problems around the old school would increase.

"That was the only protest that we had," Hooper said.

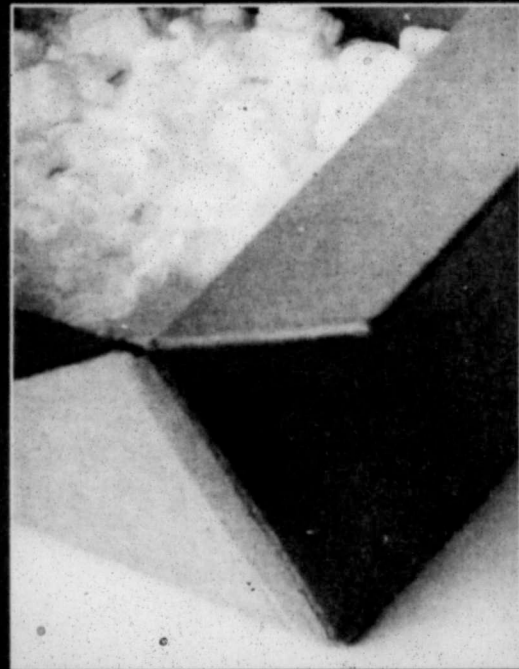
He said that the city staff, after reviewing the situation, recommended rezoning the school as commercial property.

Hooper noted that properties next to the school on Hobart are zoned commercial so there was no issue of spot zoning.

The planning and zoning commission's recommendation goes before the Pampa City Commission this afternoon.

Planning your next big move?

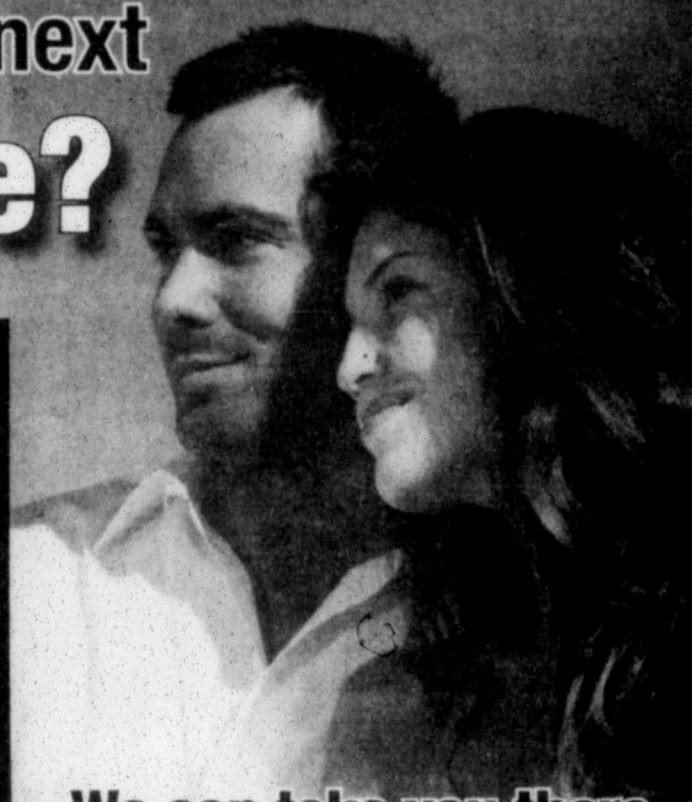
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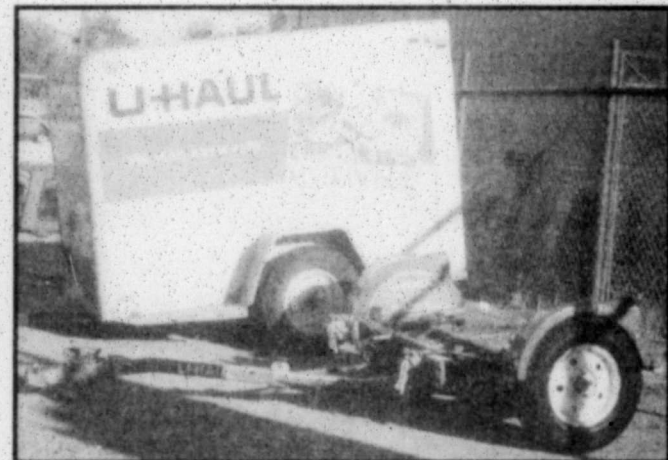
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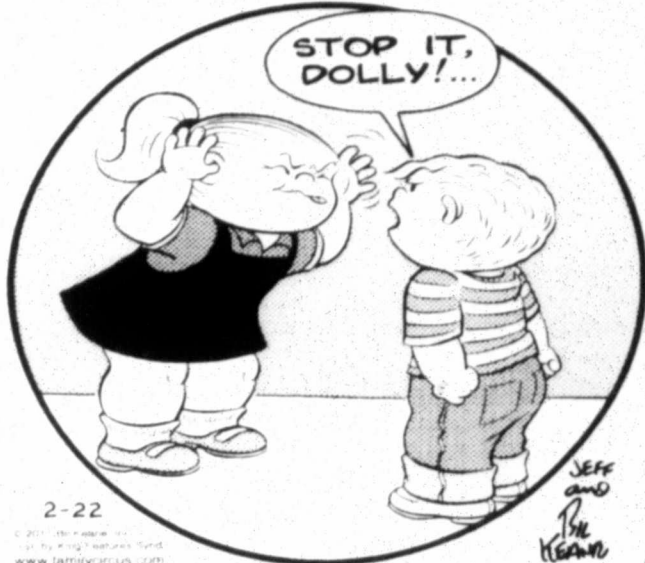


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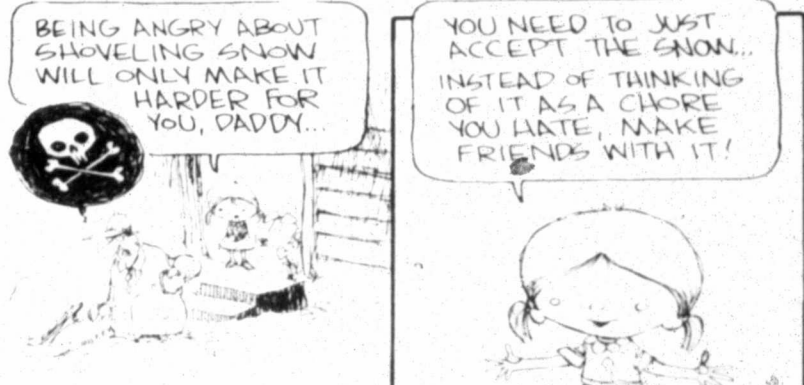
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



2-22

"... You're s'posed to be sugar and spice and everything nice."

Non Sequitur



Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2011:

Follow your instincts this year. Your feelings will guide you. As a result, you will hit many home runs. It is important to be in tune with yourself. Once you achieve that level of self understanding, your year will flow. A new friendship could play a significant role in your life, helping you realize a long desired wish. Your popularity soars. You easily could meet someone quite special this year. This person will demonstrate real caring. If you are attached, the two of you gain through socializing as a couple more. CAPRICORN warms up when with you.

A baby born today, Feb. 23, 2011, has a Pisces Sun and a Moon in Scorpio.

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)
 ***** Others provoke some unusually strong responses. A boss, parent or supervisor likes your style. A meeting provides important feedback. One-on-one relating takes you in a new direction. If you want some answers, say less. Someone will start talking. Tonight, With a favorite person.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)
 ***** Deter to a partner or loved one. He or she feels the need for your support and, above all, approval. Allowing others to assume a stronger role demonstrates confidence and caring. Your mind goes into overdrive. Sort through your thoughts first. Tonight, Go with another person's ideas.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)
 ***** You focus at such a level that others cannot break your concentration. Clearly a partner supports you in a venture that could take a lot of time. Is there any way that you could include him or her in this project? Tonight, Choose a tension-breaker.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22)
 ***** You come up with answers quickly and efficiently. You might wonder when enough is enough. Clearly someone admires — if not cares about — you. Share more of your imagination and creativity. Tonight, Let fun in.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
 ***** Your 23rd aegid helps. In fact, your mere presence helps. Give others the support they need, and let go of your opinions, for the moment. Positive vibes create more positive vibes. A lunch or meeting could develop into a social happening. Tonight, Order in your favorite pizza.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
 ***** Approach others with confidence and caring. Share more of your ideas that you usually keep to yourself. A conversation could help a personal relationship more than you think. Make calls, schedule meetings. Remain positive. Tonight, A force to be dealt with.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)
 ***** Money is very important, as you like to indulge in frivolous items to express your affection for others, as well as for yourself. A family member would appreciate just a card far more than you think. Listen to your inner voice with this person. Tonight, Your treat, and it doesn't have to break the bank!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)
 ***** Your sense of direction emerges. By softening your style just a little, your impact will increase. Touch base with a sister or brother. Give that neighbor the extra time. Your caring builds more open bonds. You don't need to always be stern! Tonight, Flirting over dinner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
 ***** Sometimes the less said the better. You see a loved one or financial situation in a much different light. You could be overwhelmed by another person's feelings. There are some people you can influence only through an exchange of feelings. They are not moved otherwise. Tonight, Follow your instincts.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
 ***** Someone thinks you are the cat's meow. Though it might be nice to do no wrong, a realistic appraisal might feel better ultimately. Your inner transformation starts breaking through. You won't evoke the same responses anymore. Tonight, You are the party!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
 ***** You handle the limelight well. Others are extremely sympathetic and understanding. You still might be well advised to restrain your feelings. You don't need to share all your thoughts, either. Honor your image. Tonight, Leader of the gang.

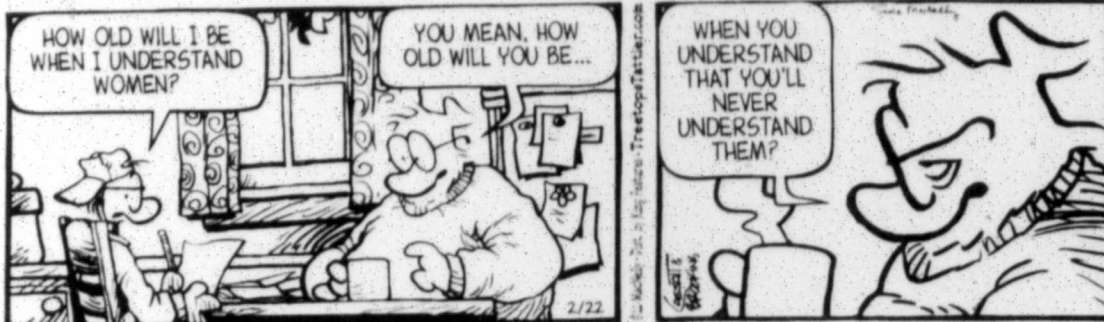
PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20)
 ***** Stretch your mind if you are confused. Give up your preordained thinking, and try to open your mind. Where might someone else be coming from? Travel, foreigners and mental growth might mix together in an odd manner. Tonight, Let your imagination choose.

BORN TODAY
 Actor Peter Fonda (1940), musician, singer Johnny Winter (1944), composer George Frideric Handel (1685)

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



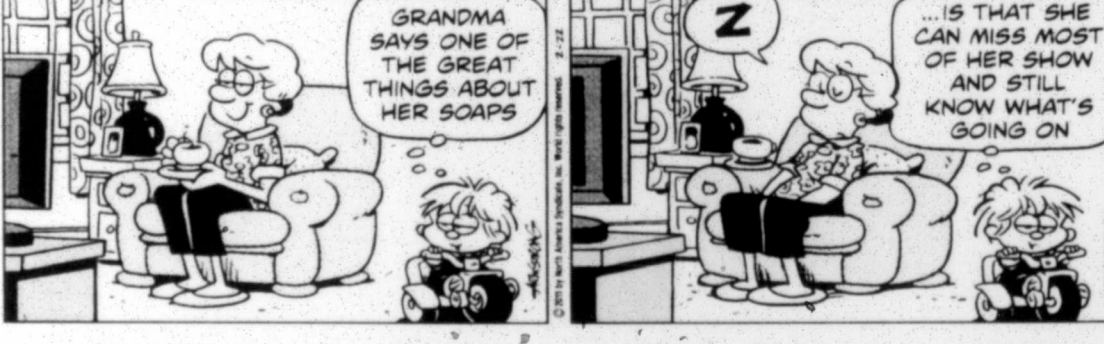
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie





Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I need advice from someone who doesn't know me personally. My husband and I have been married four years and have three lovely kids. Recently we have hit hard times.

A few months ago my husband lost his job, and from there we hit rock bottom. Right now we are sleeping in our car. My problem is I don't like having my kids live like this. It makes me mad and I feel like a bad parent. I could go to a women's shelter, but I don't want to break up my

family. I'm scared, and I'm not sure what to do.

My husband is working now, but we don't have enough money to get an apartment, so I was considering staying in a hotel — but it will take some time before we can do that. Do you think we should stay at the shelter until we have a place, or until we can get a hotel room? I need some serious advice. — **SCARED IN LUBBOCK, TEXAS**

DEAR SCARED: I'm glad you asked. You should check out the shelter and see

what kind of accommodations they can make for you and your small children. It's a better, safer environment for them than five people sleeping in a car. I know this is a painful decision, but it isn't "breaking up the family." It is only temporary until you and your husband have saved enough for accommodations together again.

DEAR ABBY: For the last five years I have had no time for myself. I'm 30 and have a wonderful wife and two daughters, 7 and 4. I work

a 40-hour week and go to school full-time.

I don't want to sound selfish, because I know that my priorities are my wife and daughters, and I enjoy spending "quality time" with them. But I also feel that every other week or so, I should be able to get away for a few hours by myself to enjoy 18 holes of golf or go fishing.

If I tell my wife I'm going to do something, she makes me feel guilty. If I ask, she gives me the third degree. I know she doesn't need or want time to herself because I have asked her repeatedly if she does, hoping she'd return the favor — but she doesn't give me "permission."

Am I asking the impossible? How do I find time for

myself and tell my wife without upsetting her? — "SELFISH" IN SPRINGFIELD

DEAR "SELFISH": (Almost) everyone needs "alone time" to pursue personal interests and unwind. You have a full schedule and you deserve quality time for yourself. Out of consideration for your wife, ask her if playing golf or fishing on a specific day conflicts with any couple or family event she had planned. And be sure to tell her that having some time to yourself will make you a better husband and father — because it's the truth. Then go and enjoy yourself, and don't feel guilty.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend is new to Facebook and

insists on posting something daily. The problem is he can't spell, and it's quite embarrassing. I've told him he should re-read his posts before he sends them, but he doesn't. How should I handle this? — **CAN YOU SAY SPELL CHECK?**

DEAR SPELL CHECK: Your boyfriend's problem isn't that he can't spell. It's that he's too lazy to use spell check. Much as you might like to "handle this" for him, you can't. Some people must learn their lessons the hard way, and until he embarrasses himself badly enough to proofread his postings, he'll continue not checking his spelling.

Warning: Do not step in and become his editor or it could become a full-time job.

The Pampa News Classifieds

1 Public Notice Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Pampa Economic Development Corporation on March 17, 2011 at 11:00 A.M. at the Pampa EDC office, 106 N. Cuyler, Pampa, Texas. A public hearing to grant \$75,000.00 to the City of Pampa for a demolition program to clean up Pampa.	1 Public Notice time employment. The first year, forgive \$5,000.00 per employee. The second year, forgive \$4,000.00 per employee, the third year, forgive \$3,000.00 per employee, and the fourth year, forgive \$2,000.00 per employee, not to exceed a total of \$30,000.00. The employment tax records will be used to calculate hours worked, starting June 1, 2011. Verification will be supplied to Pampa, EDC from employment tax records as of January 1, 2011 as a base number for employees working before the contract date. If Jeffries Enterprise fails to hire the additional and anticipated employees, payments will begin June 1, 2016, not to exceed \$500.00 per month including principal and interest. This notice is published pursuant to the sixty (60) day public notice requirement set forth in Section 4-B (a)-(1), of the	1 Public Notice development Corporation Act of 1979 G-67 Feb. 22, 2011.	14e Carpet Serv. NU WAY CLEANING SERVICE. Bob/Marx Owner Operator Call 665-3541.	14n Painting INTERIOR Exterior Painting. Call Steve Porter, 669-9347 or 662-2574.	21 Help Wanted WELDERS needed. Must pass weld test. Please apply in person. 2930 Hwy 152 West.	2' Help Wanted ACCEPTING resumes for Experienced Pumpers. 2 yrs. exp. minimum. Must furnish 4 wh. drive pickup. Apply Peto Petroleum, 8037 Co. Rd. 11, Pampa. Call office 669-3947 or manager 806-202-2822	60 Household NICE wood computer desk, sofas, freezer, refrigerator, tables. Call 662-7557.	95 Furn. Apts. 1 bdrm's avail. starting \$435/mo. \$100 off 1st mo. rent w/ 7 mo. lease. Corp. units, utilities, items, basic cable. Caprock Apts. 665-7149.	
5 Special Notices ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.	10 Lost/Found LOST, 8 yr old Male Pit Bull, Black & White Sweet, Goes by Gibby, Call 662-9982.	14g Elec. Contr. RUSSELLCROW Electric for your electric needs! Comm., Res. 665-0878, 440-1171.	14s Plumbing JACK'S Plumbing 715 W. Foster 665-7115.	14w Air Cond/Heat BROWNING Heating & Air Cond., 665-1212. Free est. on new equip. We service all brands!	21 Help Wanted NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.	69 Misc. ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.	96 Unfurn. Apts. \$100 off 1st Mo. Rent 4 bdr starting \$395/mo. On-site laundry, Caprock Apts. 665-7149.	96 Unfurn. Apts. \$100 off 1st Mo. Rent 4 bdr starting \$395/mo. On-site laundry, Caprock Apts. 665-7149.	
14d Carpentry OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347, 806-663-0192.	14h Gen. Serv. HOUSE Cracking in bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563.	COX Fence Company Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.	MAINTENANCE Man needed. Must have current dr. lic., own tools & pass drug test. Apply at Gwendolyn Plaza Apts, 800 N N Nelson.	HEPARD'S - Crook Nursing Agency needs Full Time Accountant Full benefits. Come by 916 N. Crest Rd., Pampa for application.	HOME HEALTH RN DIRECTOR Full Time Great benefits, competitive pay, insurance, retirement, PTO. Please call Rayanna 806-323-6422 Ext. 231, Hemp Hill Co. Hospital.	DRIVER needed. 1 yr experience DOT physical drug screen required. 806-665-2451.	EXPERIENCED steam-er operator w/ at least 2 yrs exp. & good driving record. Apply 8037 Co Rd. 11, Pampa. Call office 669-3947 or Manager 806-202-2822.	High School diploma or GED. Pre-employment physical exam, drug screen, background check, assessment tests required. Competitive wage and benefit package. EOE. Contact Titan 806-665-3781 HYPERLINK "mailto:hr@titanspecialties.com" hr@titanspecialties.com 11785 Hwy 152 Pampa, TX 79065	SHIVALLS Inc. is looking for LayOut Fabricators. Drug tests req. Benefits, health ins, profit sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays and 10 days vacation per year. 806-665-7141, Pampa.
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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.

2-22 CRYPTOQUOTE

ZGRDSNXRNTGX ODYTIL OUXZZ
YP SNO NSKX ZVL UIZRX CTN
AXZGV PYG NSKXIXOOVXOO

— PGZVJ BXDGA
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: OBSERVE GOOD FAITH AND JUSTICE TOWARD ALL NATIONS. CULTIVATE PEACE AND HARMONY WITH ALL. — GEORGE WASHINGTON

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Sports

Lady Harvesters hold high ambitions amidst changes

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters may have lost seven seniors, but with a younger team, their goals are unaltered as they seek a long playoff run in their first 3A season.

The Lady Harvesters lost starting pitchers first basemen Ashley Facio and Carlyn Teichmann, starting catcher Samantha Pearson, starting shortstop Shelbie Watson, starting centerfielder Emilie Troxell, designated hitter Brooklyn Barker and pinch runner Mikealya Flores. Pampa is coming off a 25-11-1 season and a sixth straight regional quarterfinal berth. Head coach Bobby Gill said the offseason went well and added they have had some good position battles.

"We prepared to fill the spots that we lost," Gill said. "We got a lot of kids that work really hard and want to fill those spots and continue what we've been doing."

Senior third baseman Jordan Mayhew said the younger players are picking up the game.

"They've been picking it up since last year," Mayhew said. "They were on JV and got good practice time; they will be ready."

Sophomore infielder Bailey Beck said everyone is having to get used to new positions but thinks they are adjusting to them well.

"I think we are fitting into them well and I think we are coming together," Beck said.

Along with their lineup, the Lady Harvesters' district is new also. Pampa's new district foes are Borger, Perryton and Dalhart with the Lady Harvesters being the only ones who qualified for postseason last year. Mayhew said the team isn't worried about district.

"We're going to have a hard preseason to get ready for after district," Mayhew said. "We have to take care of business in district as well."

Senior outfielder Shanna Keown said even though they aren't playing Canyon and Randall it will still be a challenge.

"It will be nice not having to see them," Keown said.

Gill said their new district opponents are new to them and will have to do some scouting.

"We haven't seen any of them," Gill said. "Our programs never play Dalhart. We haven't played Borger or Perryton in a couple of years."

Though, they left District 3-4A, Pampa will still see some of their former district foes. The Lady Harvesters open today with Hereford, host Canyon March 1 and visit Randall April 22.

Pampa will compete in tournaments at Burkburnett, Snyder and Pilot Point.

Last year's senior class made it to at least the regional quarterfinals all four seasons, Mayhew said she looks forward to the challenge of continuing that run.

"There's a lot of pressure," Mayhew said. "I'm doing my best to lead by example and continue the tradition."

Keown said she thinks they will be as successful in 3A as they were in 4A.

"I think we are going to be just as competitive and do as well as last year," Keown said. "I hope we go further."

Gill said they will need someone to step up every game for them to be successful.

"We are going to have to have good production from our bats and a solid defensive effort," Gill said. "A good performance on the mound every time we come out. We got depth in a lot of places. It's going to be a matter of seeing what combination works everyday."

Player to Watch

Senior third baseman **Jordan Mayhew** should provide most of the power in the Lady Harvesters lineup. Defensively, Mayhew is strong in the hot corner and should record a lot of assists. On and off the field look for Mayhew to be a veteran leader to a younger Lady Harvester squad.



Mayhew



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Bailey Beck prepares to catch a throw in practice February 14. The Lady Harvesters open the season today against Hereford and look to build on a sixth straight regional quarterfinal appearance.

The Pampa News PHOTO CONTEST

Win \$100 if your photo is selected as the "best."

The theme of our photo contest is "Life in Gray County, Texas." Send us your non-posed photos of the people, places and things that make life worth living here on the high plains. The photos will be judged on creativity and general appeal by members of our staff. The top submission will receive \$100. The second-place photo will receive \$50 and the third-place photo will receive \$25.



2010 First Place in Family Fun "First Snow in Pampa" Janelle Guymon

Entry Form

(Please fill out the following form and tape or paper clip the form to the photo. Any photo submitted without this information will be disqualified.)

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____

Name of Person/Persons in Photo (Left to Right) _____

Description of Photo: _____

* Please submit all photos by 4 p.m. Friday, March 4. Any submissions received after this date will not be judged.

Contest Rules:

All photos submitted to the contest must be taken by the person submitting it and must have been taken in Gray County since Jan. 1, 2010. The photos cannot have appeared previously in any other publication or contest. You may submit as many photos as you like. The best way to submit your photos is to send them via email to rprbble@thepampanews.com. The photos should be in .jpg format. Please include the information above. If you would rather submit your entries as prints, send them with the information to: Photography Contest, The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison Avenue, Pampa TX 79065. If you wish the prints returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your entry. All entries must be postmarked or emailed by 4 p.m. Friday, March 4. Submissions after that date will not be considered. The Pampa News will publish all the winners, and many of the other submissions, in a special section of our annual Pride issue.