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The PAMPA NEWS

Friday, November 4, 2011 Volume 107 • No. 177 75c Daily • Weekend \$1.50

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Page 1B
 2011-2012 Basketball Preview

Emmert denies Skinner access to DNA evidence

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com
 Judge Steven Emmert of the 31st District Court in Gray County issued an order on Wednesday that denies Hank Skinner's access to DNA evidence for testing. Emmert's order was made public yesterday. Skinner was convicted of the 1993 murders of his girlfriend, Twila Busby, and her two sons,

Elwin Caler and Randy Busby. He received the death sentence for the crimes, with his execution date set for next Wednesday. Prosecutors believe Skinner's efforts to



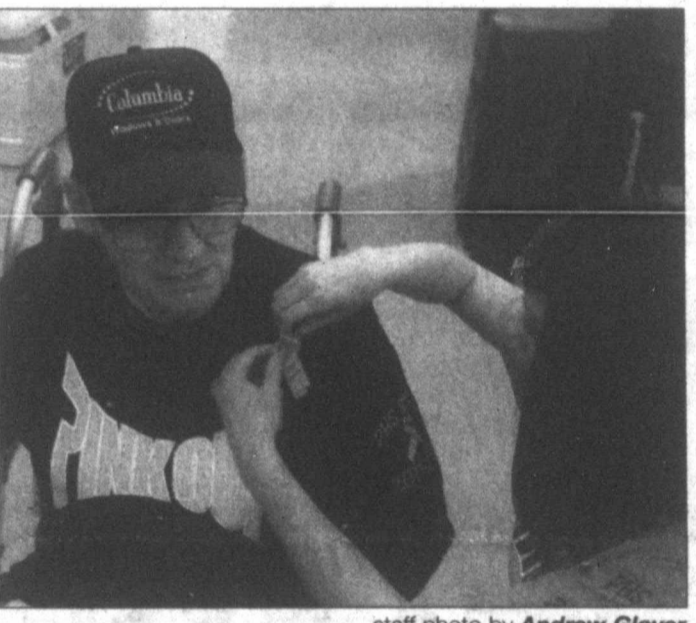
Skinner

secure DNA evidence has been an attempt to delay his execution, while his attorneys maintain that denial to test the evidence is a civil rights viola-

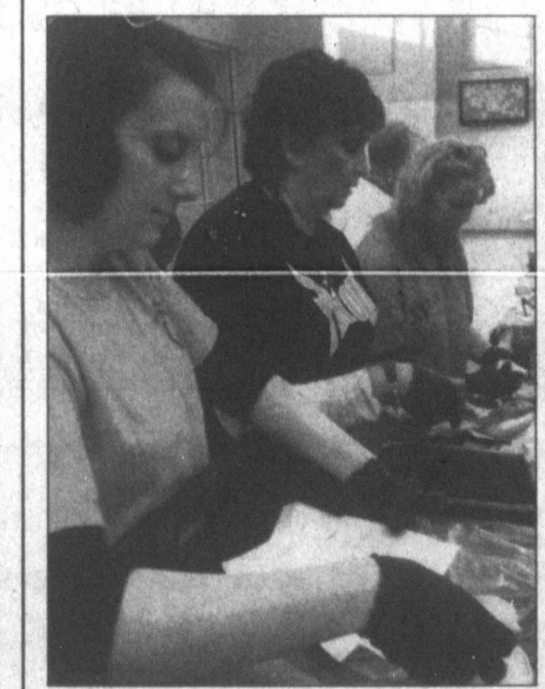
"The stakes in this case are too high to allow Mr. Skinner to be executed before he has a fair chance to make his case that the trial court made a grave mistake in denying his request for DNA testing," said Rob C. Owen, co-lead attorney for Hank Skinner's defense team. Skinner's attorneys plan to file a stay of execution motion with the Texas Court of Criminal **SKINNER** cont. on page 8

Pre-pep PINK

Pampa High School senior Ashtin Sackett pins a ribbon on her grandfather, Charlie Sackett, at the cookout before the Pink Out Community Pep Rally at McNeely Fieldhouse. Ashtin is currently battling Stage Three osteosarcoma, a form of bone cancer. >



staff photo by Andrew Glover



staff photo by Arnie Aurellano

Cassi Denton (from left), American Cancer Society President Christy Robinson and Melody Epperson serve burgers to guests at the cookout in the commons area of Pampa High School.



staff photo by Arnie Aurellano

Gerald Rasco mans the grill at the cookout before the Pampa High School Pink Out Community Pep Rally on Thursday.

Gaines County mineral rights lease extended

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com
 At the Gray County Commissioners Court meeting on Tuesday, commissioners decided to extend their mineral rights lease with Boyd and McWilliams Energy Group under new terms. Gray County will now receive 22.5 percent royalty with a \$150 per acre bonus.



Willoughby

"About 30 years ago, the county had the foresight to keep their mineral rights in Gaines County. All the revenue from the mineral rights goes to FUSD, so the schools can benefit,"

said Gary Willoughby, Precinct 2 Commissioner. Commissioners decided to accept a donation of radios from the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission. "The two way radios had belonged to the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, and they decided to donate them to cities and counties. This basically was transferring ownership of the radios to the county," said Willoughby. Commissioners also decided to defer action on an audit report from the District Attorney's Asset Forfeiture Fund until their next meeting, citing some spending concerns, according to Commissioner **COUNTY** cont. on page 8

Reception for Artist of the Year Sutherland Sunday

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com
 The White Deer Land Museum will host a reception and exhibit from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday for Karin Sutherland, who was chosen by the Pampa Fine Arts Association as Pampa's Artist of the Year. The reception is open to the public and will feature 56 of Sutherland's pieces, ranging in medium from oil on canvas to clay sculpture. Sutherland said she was excited to have the museum host her work, adding that she was proud to count herself among Pampa's Artists of the Year.



Sutherland

"It is an honor," she said. "It does kind of make you think, 'Wow, I feel pretty honored.' It was an unexpected thing." Sutherland discovered Sculpey clay while working as a teacher's at Austin Elementary in 1990 and began painting in 2007. She was invited by a friend to a "Bring a Canvas" event to try painting at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center; the rest, Sutherland said, is history.

"I've always kind of had a leaning towards art," she said. "The opportunity just kind of showed itself (at the Senior Citizens Center). I didn't have any idea that I could do anything, and when I started and found out that I could, I fell in love with it instantly." While she still occasionally dabbles in clay, Sutherland said, her artistic calling has moved more towards oil painting. Her paintings run the gamut of subjects, although some particular models are very close to her heart. "Probably my favorite subject is painting old trucks," Sutherland said with a **RECEPTION** cont. on page 8

"Country Christmas" Parade
 December 3rd
 Entry forms can be picked up at the Chamber office
 Deadline for entry is Nov. 30

IN THIS ISSUE:

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday
High 60 Low 38	High 70 Low 38	High 61 Low 37

Today: Sunny, with a high near 60. Wind chill values between 17 and 27 early. Windy, with a south wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 38. Wind chill values between 30 and 35. Windy, with a south wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 70. Windy, with a southwest wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as 45 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 38. Windy, with a west southwest wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 61. Breezy, with a west wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 37. Southwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

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NO PAMPA Newspaper will be delivered on Veteran's Day, Fri. Nov. 11th and the office is also closed that day. Early Classified and Last Minute Ad deadlines for Weekend Edition (Sat/Sun) Nov. 12/13th-deadline is Thurs. Nov. 10 at noon, and Mon. Nov. 14th the deadline is Thurs. Nov. 10, at 2pm.

Perry endorses work visas for illegals

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Gov. Rick Perry proposed the federal government should extend work visas allowing illegal immigrants to move freely between the U.S. and their home countries — but stressed that he opposes amnesty or a path to citizenship.

Perry said in an interview with CNN's John King on Thursday that expectations that U.S. authorities are going to arrest and deport up to 15 million illegal immigrants isn't realistic. He added, however, that other Republicans, including fellow Texan George W. Bush, went too far when they previously proposed an immigration overhaul that included a path to citizenship.

The Texas governor also claimed his chief rival for the Republican presidential nomination, Mitt Romney, had once supported amnesty. Romney has drawn criticism for hiring a lawn care company that employed illegal immigrants at his family's property in a Boston suburb for a decade — but has also said amnesty is not appropriate for illegal immigrants.

"You can put a program into place in which these individuals can be identified, and work visas in which they can move back

and forth between their countries but not to become United States citizens," Perry said. "And I think that's where McCain, that's where Romney, that's where even Bush went wrong when they talked about the issue that, 'we're going to give amnesty to these individuals,' and people just said, 'no, we're not.'"

Perry didn't elaborate on what such a visa plan would look like, saying only that authorities need to determine a better way to identify illegal immigrants and make them part of mainstream society. He also said the program would only work if the federal government first does a better job securing America's borders.

"I disagree with the concept that somehow or another we're going to pack up 10, to 12, to 15 million people and ship them back to the country of origin. That's not going to happen," Perry said. "So really has to be part of our conversation. And then you need to have a strategy to deal with it. That is what I think we will have, but first you have to secure that border."

Perry called Washington's efforts to stop the flow of illegal immigrants "an abject failure"

but said that, as president, he could accomplish the task in just a year using the existing fence, more border patrol agents and air surveillance. Perry also repeated his opposition to a fence running the length of the border, saying it would take 10 to 15 years to build.

"There's places where a secure fence will work, and that strategic type fencing will work," he said. "But the idea that people can easily just stand up and say 'let's just build a fence' and be done with it and wipe our hands, and its going to secure the border, that's not reality."

Perry has seen his polling numbers plummet after a string of lackluster debate performances — and angered some conservatives by defending a Texas plan that extends in-state university tuition to illegal immigrants who were brought into the country as children and attend high school in Texas.

The governor again defended the initiative on Thursday, saying better education helps ensure those participating in the program contribute to society: "We want taxpayers, not tax wasters."

Lawmaker apologizes after using Jewish slur

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A Texas state lawmaker on Thursday used a Jewish slur during a legislative committee hearing while telling officials not to delay or cheat people out of legitimate property insurance claims.

Rep. Larry Taylor, of Friendswood, who leads the House Republican Caucus and is the chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Windstorm Insurance, told officials with the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association, "Don't nitpick, don't try to Jew them down."

Taylor quickly followed that the remark was "probably a bad term," but he kept speaking without interruption. Through a spokesman, Taylor later issued an apology.

"I inadvertently used a phrase that many people find offensive. I corrected myself immediately when I realized what I had said. I regret my poor choice of words and sincerely apologize for any harm they may have caused," Taylor said.

A telephone message seeking comment from House Speaker Joe Straus, who is Jewish, was not

immediately returned.

Taylor is running for a state Senate seat. As leader of the House Republicans, he was criticized for being one of several House lawmakers absent from the Capitol last June when lawmakers were in special session. Taylor spent a week in the Bahamas on a family vacation.

Thursday's hearing was to address the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association, which provides property and business coverage in 14 coastal counties and part of Harris County.

Following Hurricane Ike in 2008, there were numerous allegations of collusion between claims adjusters and the associations. More than 1,900 policyholders sued the association for failing to pay for legitimate damages.

State lawmakers this year approved changes that allow policy holders to sue for their claims and collect double damages, but only if they meet strict new standards to prove that TWIA intentionally denied a legitimate claim.

Obituaries

Dora Mae Brown, 94

Dora Mae Brown, 94, died November 2, 2011, in Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, November 5, 2011, at Central Baptist Church with Rev. Norman Kushing, pastor, and Rev. Rick Parnell, associate pastor, officiating.

Burial will be at Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Brown was born June 21, 1917, in Quail. She married Thomas Hal Brown on January 29, 1938, in Memphis. He preceded her in death on November 23, 2002. She and her husband lived on the Hayhook Ranch west of Pampa for 41 years before moving to Pampa in 1984. She was a member of Central Baptist Church and was a homemaker.

Survivors include a daughter, Judy Rogers and husband Joe of Katy; two sons, Rickey Brown and wife Sharron of Pampa and Jimmie Brown of Austin; a sister, Hazel French and husband Cecil of El Camino, Calif.; a brother, Lee O'Hair of Amarillo; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by five brothers, Fred, Ross, Pat, Robert and Ralph O'Hair.

Memorials may be made to Central Baptist Church, 513 E. Francis, Pampa, TX 79065.



Brown

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

Ola Faye Kennon, 77

Ola Faye Kennon, 77, died October 17, 2011, in Pampa.

Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, November 5, 2011, at Highland Baptist Church, with Pastor Paul Nachtigall, officiating. Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Kennon was born March 3, 1934, in Snyder, Okla. She had been a resident of Pampa for the past 15 years. Ola enjoyed reading and working word-find puzzles. When her health was good, she enjoyed working in the garden and working with house plants.

Survivors include three daughters, Betty Bryant and husband Lorenzo of Ocala, Fla., Patricia Carroll and husband John of Spokane, Wash., and Dianna Asbury of Rogers, Ark.; three sons, Joe Trigg and wife Kathy of Denver, Colo., Morris Long and wife Vickie and William Sumrall, all of Pampa; a sister, Mary Zigler of Granite, Okla.; 19 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. Ola was preceded in death by a brother, Bill Trigg; and a sister, Opal Lederwood.

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



Kennon

For the record

Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 24 hour period ending Thursday, November 3 at 7 a.m.

Animal Control agents responded to 12 animal related incidents.

Pampa PD reported 10 traffic related incidents.

The Pampa Fire Department responded to one medical call.

Wednesday, November 2

An abandoned vehicle was reported at the 1300 block of North Duncan.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1200 block of West Williston.

A burglary occurred at the 1200 block of North Williston.

Harassment occurred at the 700 block of East Malone.

Found property was reported at the 400 block of West Brown.

A threat occurred at Highway 60 and Wells.

A theft occurred at the 600 block of East Frederic.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Police investigated alarms at the 1300 block of North Charles and the 2400 block of North Hobart.

A burglary occurred at the 1400 block of West Somerville.

A prowler was reported at the 1200 block of North Wells.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1600 block of West Kentucky.

Thursday, November 3

Suspicious persons were reported at the 1000 block of North Wells and the 700 block of North Dwight.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1900 block of North Duncan.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests for the 24 hour period ending Thursday, November 3 at 7 a.m.

Wednesday, November 2

Peter Vargas Perez, 33, was arrested by deputies on a blue warrant for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

James Leroy Tripplett, 45, was arrested by deputies for possession of a con-

trolled substance.

Michael Chad Simpson, 37, was arrested by deputies on charges of manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance, selling or possession of a controlled substance, assault causing bodily injury, evading arrest or detention, unlawful carrying of weapon and issuance of a bad check.

Charles Gilbert Gowing, 42, was arrested by deputies for driving while intoxicated.

James Ray Jennings, 57, was arrested by police for possession of a controlled substance and tampering with physical evidence with intent to impair.

Justin David Harris, 38, was arrested by DPS agents for driving while intoxicated.

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Texas early voting ends Friday

AUSTIN (AP) - Early voting runs through Friday for next week's constitutional amendments election in Texas.

Secretary of State Hope Andrade says early voting started Oct. 24. Election day is Tuesday.

Texas voters will consider 10 proposed constitutional amendments, including how property taxes are calculated on land set aside for water conservation.

Drought affected monarchs

FORT WORTH (AP) - Experts say the lingering Texas drought may be affecting the migration of monarch butterflies heading south for the winter.

Biologist Michael Warriner with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department says he's seen probably only four monarchs in the last three weeks.

Researchers hope to get a better count of the monarchs once they arrive at their winter grounds in Mexico in a few weeks.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Wednesday that the drought has dramatically reduced the main food source for monarch butterflies. The insects need the nectar from blooming plants.

Entomologist Mike Quinn with Texas Monarch Watch says he drove through the Hill Country last month and was disappointed in how many dead plants and how few butterflies he saw.

3 indicted in AF fraud case

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - A federal grand jury in Texas has indicted three people in a \$6.5 million fraud investigation linked to Air Force services and alleged overcharges.

Prosecutors in San Antonio say a 17-count indictment returned Wednesday names 60-year-old James McKinney of San Antonio, 62-year-old Donald Dean Brewer and his wife, 62-year-old Sherri Lynn Brewer. The Brewers are from Clovis, N.M.

All three are charged with conspiracy to defraud the government, 12 counts of wire fraud and four counts of major fraud against the government.

The indictment says Donald Brewer was employed by KARTA Technologies Inc. as the medical systems infrastructure modernization program manager at Brooks City-Base in San Antonio. McKinney served as a vice president with Ark Systems Inc.

The indictment alleges the trio and others created a sham subcontracting business.

2 more pipeline bills introduced

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - Nebraska lawmakers have introduced two new bills aimed at oil pipelines.

The Legislature on Thursday ended its third day of a special session that was called to address concerns over the Keystone XL pipeline.

One bill by state Sen. Ken Haar of Malcolm would create an "exclusion zone" where pipelines larger than 8 inches in diameter could not run unless the state Public Service Commission grants permission. It's intended to protect Nebraska's environmental resources.

A second bill by state Sen. Bill Avery of Lincoln would require companies such as TransCanada, the Keystone XL developer, to post a \$500 million bond. The bond would be made available to landowners and counties to restore any damages to land, infrastructure or natural resources.

Hearings on bills are expected to start next week.

BP to pay Texas \$50 million

HOUSTON (AP) - Oil company BP has agreed to pay Texas \$50 million for air pollution violations at a Gulf Coast refinery where a 2005 explosion killed 15 workers, the state's attorney general announced Thursday.

The settlement between BP Products North America and the State of Texas resolves 72 emissions violations between 2005 and now, Attorney General Greg Abbott told a Houston news conference. The violations include some that contributed to the massive explosion six years ago at the Texas City refinery.

The settlement's announcement comes as BP PLC struggles to resolve issues surrounding an April 2010 explosion at an offshore rigging platform that killed 11 people and caused the biggest offshore oil spill in U.S. history.

It also comes just a few months after the company indicated a desire to sell the Texas City refinery. The agreement could make it easier for the company to find a buyer, because its pollution liabilities with the state have been settled. In August 2010, BP reached a \$50.6 million settlement with the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration for failing to correct safety violations after the 2005 explosion. At the time, OSHA indicated it was also trying to force the company to pay an additional \$30 million in fines.

NM removes bighorns from threatened list

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - New Mexico game commissioners are making history with their decision to remove desert bighorn sheep from the state's list of threatened and endangered species.

Thursday's unanimous vote marks the first time state wildlife officials have been able to remove a species from the list due to its recovery.

State bighorn sheep biologist Elise Goldstein says this is an exciting day but that removing the species from the list simply means bighorn sheep are not in danger of becoming extinct any time soon.

Texas judicial panel investigates beating video

McALLEN, Texas (AP)

- As his adult daughter took to national television, the career of the Texas judge now infamous for the violent beating he gave her as a teenager began to look less certain Thursday.

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct announced that it had opened an investigation into the video, now viewed more than 2.3 million times on YouTube, that shows Aransas County Court-at-Law Judge William Adams beating his then 16-year-old daughter with a belt for using an illegal file-sharing program.

County officials said Thursday

that Adams would not hear any cases related to Child Protective Services for at least the next two weeks. And the top administrator in Aransas County cast doubt on whether Adams could credibly return to the bench.

"I would think it would be very difficult," said Aransas County Judge C.H. "Burt" Mills Jr. "Personally I don't see how he can recover from this."

Calls to Adams' office and that of his attorney were not immediately

returned Thursday.

Hillary Adams, 23, says the outpouring of support and encouragement she's received since posting the 2004 video online last week is tempered by the sadness that it's her father lashing her 17 times with a belt and threatening to beat her "into submission."

"I'm experiencing some regret because I just pulled the covers off my own father's misbehavior after so many people thought he was such a good person."

But so many people are also telling me I did the right thing," she told The Associated Press outside her mother's home in the Gulf Coast town of Portland, near Corpus Christi Wednesday.

"He's supposed to be a judge who exercises fit judgment," she said.

And she said the videoed attack was not a one-off. "It did happen regularly for a period of time," she told NBC's "Today" show on Thursday.

In the same interview, Hallie Adams blamed her ex-husband's bouts of violence on his "addiction," calling it a "family secret." She did not elaborate. Their 22-year marriage ended in 2007.

Police in Rockport, where the 51-year-old judge lives, opened an investigation Wednesday after receiving calls from several concerned citizens, Police Chief Tim Jayroe said.

Adams, Aransas County's top judge, was elected in 2001 and has dealt with at least 349 family law cases in the past year alone, nearly 50 of

which involved state case-workers seeking determine whether parents were fit to raise their children.

Aransas County Attorney Richard Bianchi said Thursday that a visiting judge would be handling CPS cases on Adams' docket for the next two weeks. The agreement between the judges was only on those specific

BEATING cont. on page 5

"Personally I don't see how he can ever recover from this."

- C.H. "Burt" Mills, Jr. Aransas County Judge

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Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:00
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00
Mon/Thu 7:00

Tower Heist (PG-13)
Fri 7:15 9:45
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:45
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:15
Mon/Thu 7:15

In Time (PG-13)
Fri 7:30 9:45
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30
Mon/Thu 7:30

Paranormal Activity (R)
Fri 7:30 9:45
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 9:45
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Friday, Nov. 4, the 308th day of 2011. There are 57 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 4, 1991, Ronald Reagan opened his presidential library in Simi Valley, Calif., with a dedication attended by President George H.W. Bush and former Presidents Jimmy Carter, Gerald R. Ford and Richard Nixon - the first-ever gathering of five past and present U.S. chief executives.

On this date:

In 1884, Democrat Grover Cleveland was elected to his first term as president, defeating Republican James G. Blaine.

In 1922, the entrance to King Tutankhamen's tomb was discovered in Egypt.

In 1924, Nellie T. Ross of Wyoming was elected the nation's first female governor to serve out the remaining term of her late husband, William B. Ross.

In 1939, the United States modified its neutrality stance in World War II, allowing "cash and carry" purchases of arms by belligerents, a policy favoring Britain and France.

In 1942, during World War II, Axis forces retreated from El Alamein in North Africa in a major victory for British forces commanded by Lt. Gen. Bernard Montgomery.

In 1952, Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected president, defeating Democrat Adlai Stevenson.

In 1979, the Iran hostage crisis began as militants stormed the United States Embassy in Tehran, seizing its occupants; for some, it was the start of 444 days of captivity.

In 1980, Ronald Reagan won the White House as he defeated President Jimmy Carter by a strong margin.

In 1995, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a right-wing Israeli minutes after attending a festive peace rally.

In 2008, Democrat Barack Obama was elected the first black president of the United States, defeating Republican John McCain.

Ten years ago: Hurricane Michelle roared across Cuba, forcing the government to shut down power for much of the communist island and evacuate 750,000 people.

Five years ago: Katharine Jefferts Schori took office as the first female leader of the Episcopal Church and the first woman priest to head an Anglican province during a ceremony at the Washington National Cathedral.

One year ago: Australian airline Qantas grounded all six of its Airbus A380 superjumbo jets after one of them blew out an engine over Indonesia; the plane made a safe emergency return to Singapore with 469 people aboard.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Doris Roberts is 81. Actress Loretta Swit is 74. Blues singer Delbert McClinton is 71. Former First Lady Laura Bush is 65. Actress Markie Post is 61. Rock singer-musician Chris Difford (Squeeze) is 57. Actress-comedian Kathy Griffin is 51. Actor Ralph Macchio is 50. "Survivor" host Jeff Probst is 50. Rock singer-musician Wayne Static (Static-X) is 46. Actor Matthew McConaughey is 42. Rapper-producer Sean "Puffy" Combs is 42. Rhythm-and-blues singer Shawn Rivera (Az Yet) is 40. Actress Heather Tom is 36.

Thought for Today: "A boy becomes an adult three years before his parents think he does, and about two years after he thinks he does." - Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service director (1893-1977).



Obamacare has unexpected beneficiaries

RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - Some of the money from President Barack Obama's health care law is flowing to places you might not expect.

Two Texas public employee programs are among the top 25 beneficiaries of a \$5-billion fund to shore up employer coverage for early retirees, despite Texas Gov. Rick Perry's vow to repeal what Republicans derisively call "Obamacare."

And records show the Huntsman family business, where GOP presidential candidate Jon Huntsman was once a top executive, received about \$1 million.

Some see a gap between dire Republican rhetoric about the health care overhaul and the pragmatic impulse to cash in on a new government benefit.

"Lots of Texans are already benefiting from health care reform," said Anne Dunkelberg, a health care expert at the Austin-based Center for Public Policy Priorities. "Other than for political theater, there would not be the kind of opposition there is." The nonpartisan center advocates for the poor.

Employer-sponsored health insurance for retirees has been shriveling for years, ever since companies were required to report their liability to investors. Democrats who wrote the new law wanted to encourage employers to keep offering coverage. Only about 6 percent of private companies currently provide such a benefit for early retirees, according to the nonpartisan Employee Benefit Research Institute.

But that still works out to more than 400,000 companies. Add state and local government agencies, as well as union plans, and the number swells. The Obama administration's subsidy program got so many applications it stopped accepting new ones after approving more than 6,000. It pays 80 percent of the claims amount for early retirees ages 55 to 64 whose care costs between

\$15,000 and \$90,000.

The top beneficiary: the United Auto Workers retiree medical plan, collecting more than \$220 million.

"Some people have described this program as 'Cash for Clunkers,' in the sense that if you want it, you have to get in line first," said Paul Fronstin, an economist with the benefits research group. "There was a lot of advice given to be first in line." The original Cash for Clunkers paid people to trade in gas guzzlers for more fuel-efficient transportation. It created a marketing sensation before running out of cash.

Texas, it seems, heeded the advice. So did Huntsman International.

The Teacher Retirement System of Texas, a statewide system for public education employees, received more than \$70 million as of Sept. 22, according to the federal Health and Human Services Department. The Employees Retirement System of Texas, which covers state employees, received about \$30 million.

Huntsman International, the main operating subsidiary of the family-founded chemical conglomerate, is also collecting.

As candidates, both Perry and Huntsman have sworn to repeal Obama's signature health care law, which gradually extends coverage to most of the uninsured and makes other changes, including a ban on denying coverage to people in poor health and an unpopular requirement that most Americans carry insurance.

Spokesmen for the Perry and Huntsman campaigns said they see no contradictions.

Texas taxpayers also pay federal taxes, said Perry spokesman Ray Sullivan. "State taxpayers have a right to get those federal funds returned to them, in this case in the form of disbursement to the teachers and state employee retirement systems," said Sullivan. "No Texas law or policy needed to be changed in order for these agencies to be eligible to receive the funds."

Huntsman spokesman Tim Miller

said his candidate, Obama's first ambassador to China and a former governor of Utah, is opposed to all subsidies.

Jon Huntsman has not been involved in the family business since 2005, said company spokesman Gary Chapman. Huntsman resigned from the company to pursue his political career.

Asked why Huntsman International applied for the early retiree subsidy, Chapman responded: "We're a commercial organization. We are looking to maximize our shareholders' value. If there was a legitimate opportunity for us to get help in this respect, we would go for it."

Republicans have tried to paint the early retiree program as a political reward to unions, among the staunchest Democratic loyalists. According to calculations by the office of Sen. Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., the United Auto Workers Retiree Medical Benefits Trust has made out the best.

A UAW spokeswoman did not return phone calls. In its 2007 contracts with Chrysler, GM and Ford, the union agreed to form the trust to pay health care costs for the companies' retirees, including early retirees too young to qualify for Medicare. The trust started paying in January 2010, before Congress passed the health care law.

Calculations by Enzi's staff also list AT&T, Verizon, General Electric, General Motors, Qwest, Caterpillar and other private companies in the top 25, not to mention the two Texas state programs. AT&T received \$157 million.

Several media companies are also benefiting. The Associated Press, a nonprofit news-gathering service owned by the nation's newspapers, has received \$191,888.

Back in Texas, public and private employer retiree plans have collected more than \$326 million. They range from American Airlines to Texas A&M University - Perry's alma mater.

The PAMPA NEWS

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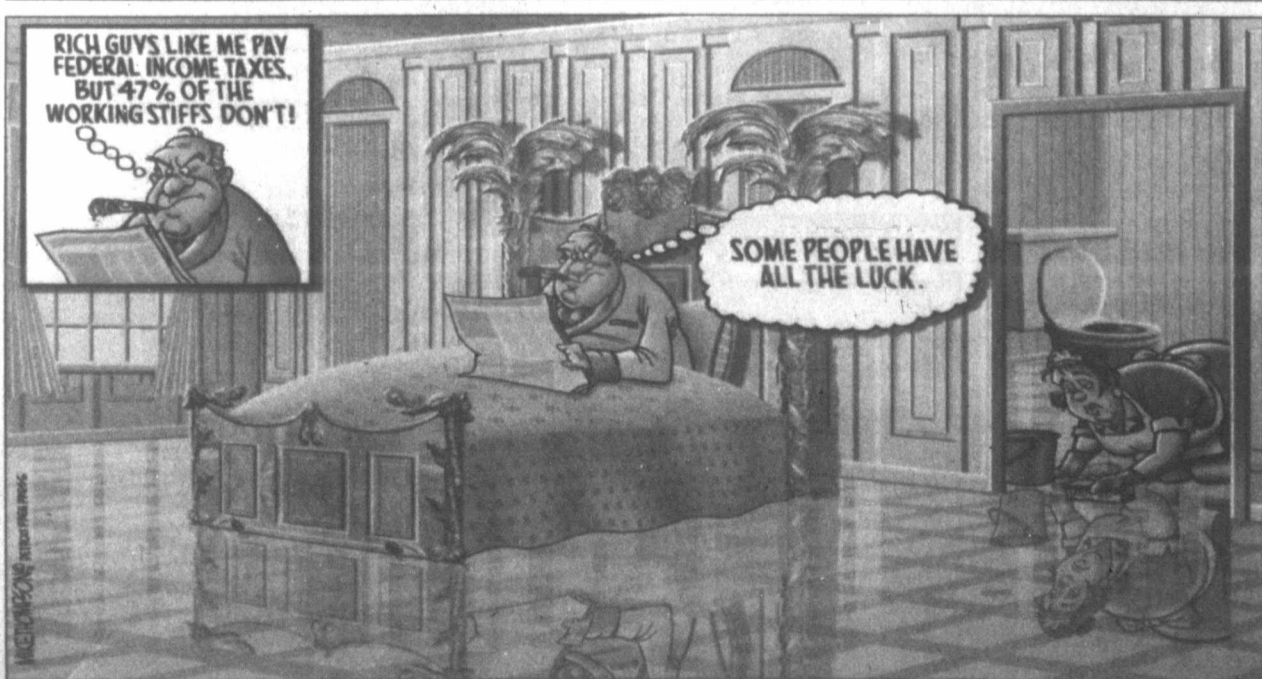
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We welcome your letters

To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.
- The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of The Pampa News or its staff.

GOLDEN VOICES

PHS Choir students participated in the Texas Music Educator Association District Choir Auditions this past Saturday at the high school. The following students were named to the District Choir and will compete in Region Auditions Saturday at Dumas High School: William Hieronymus, 12th chair Tenor 1 (back row from left); Jacob Frost, 1st chair Bass 1; Brittney Darnell, 5th chair Alto 1; Brienne Moyer, 21st chair Soprano 1; Collin McClendon 2nd alternate Bass 1; Macy Cochran, 16th chair Soprano 2; (front row from left) Logan Turley, 15th chair Tenor 2; Nick Nelson, 2nd alternate Tenor 2; Drew Facio, 8th chair Tenor 1; Brendon Burrell, 7th chair Bass 2; Holly Lane, 12th chair Soprano 1; Heather Coffee, 1st alternate Alto 2; Emilee Frost, 22nd chair Soprano 1; Jessica Covil, 18th chair Soprano 1; and Ashley Stucker, 5th chair Soprano 2.

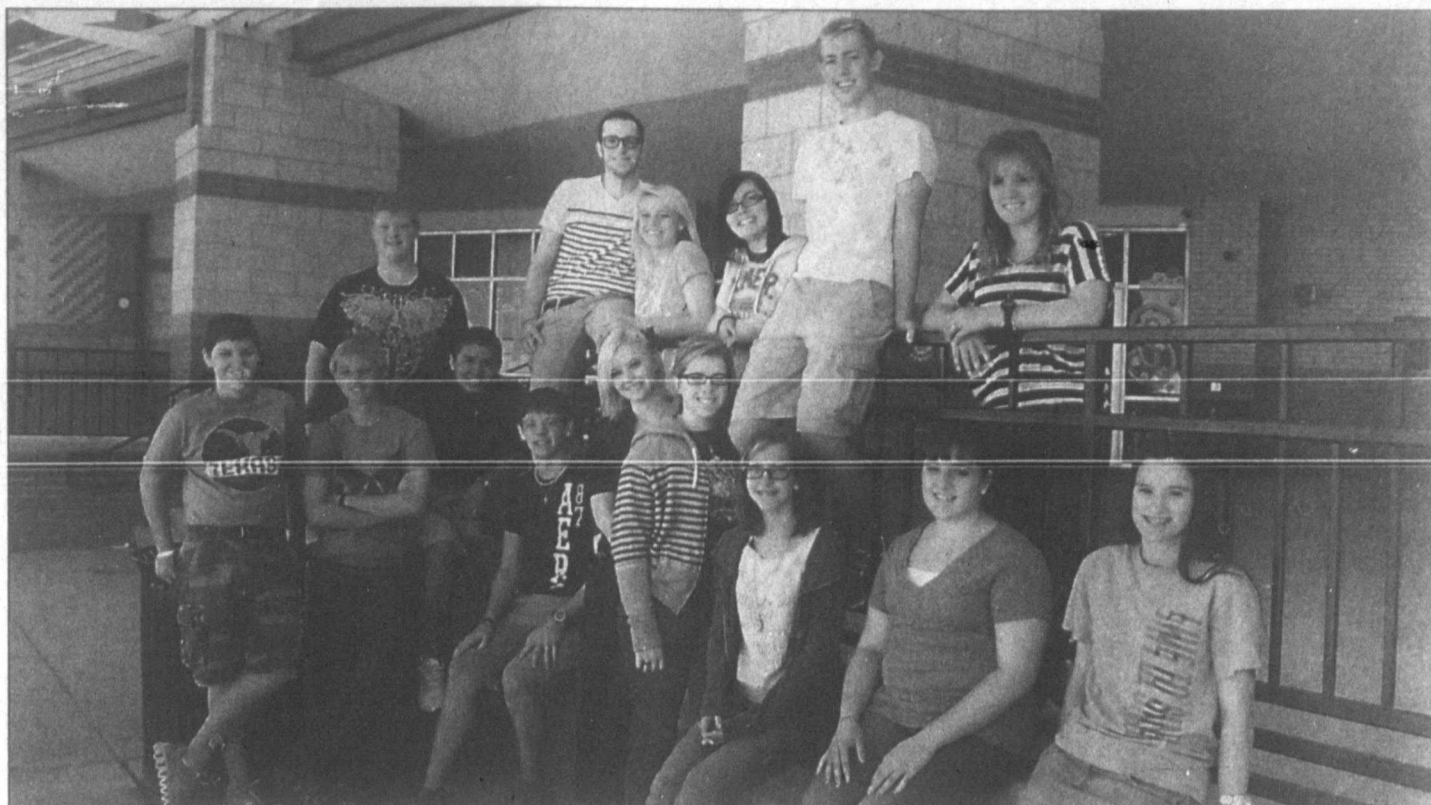


photo courtesy of **Brianna Bailey**

Beating

cases, but Bianchi said the visiting judge should take on all of them.

"It makes sense to me that as long as he's (the visiting judge) here, he'll be travelling from San Antonio, that it might be just as well that he go ahead and handle the whole docket," Bianchi said.

Asked if he had concerns about Adams' ability to handle future cases, or about the impact on cases already processed in Adams' court, Bianchi said his top concern was the integrity of the process going forward.

"We have to do everything we can to protect that process," he said.

The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services did not immediately provide comment, but Bianchi said the agency was involved in the decision to bring in a visiting judge to handle those

cases. Corpus Christi television station KZTV caught up with the judge Wednesday, and he confirmed it was him in the video. But he said it "looks worse than it is" and that he doesn't expect to be disciplined.

"In my mind, I haven't done anything wrong other than discipline my child after she was caught stealing," Adams said. "And I did lose my temper, but I've since apologized."

When told of her father's comments, Hillary Adams said, "it's a shining perfect example of his personality and he believes he can do no wrong. ... He will cover up rather than admit to what he did and try to come clean."

The 13-member Commission on Judicial Conduct comprises judges, lawyers and regular citizens. If this initial investigation leads to a formal proceeding, Adams

would have an opportunity to make his case to the commission in a hearing. After that hearing the commission has the authority to censure a judge or recommend to the Texas Supreme Court that the judge be suspended or removed. The Supreme Court would then form a tribunal of appellate judges to review the case and make a determination.

Rockport Police and the Texas Rangers are conducting their own investigation. If criminal charges are brought against Adams, the commission could suspend him.

If the judicial commission and police investigations do not amount to anything, Adams could be safe in his seat on the bench for another three years. The last time he ran for re-election he faced no opposition.

cont. from page 3

New Hampshire Republicans defend Perry, primary speech

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — GOP presidential candidate Rick Perry says he hadn't been drinking alcohol or taking medication when he delivered an animated speech last week in New Hampshire, and Republicans in the first-in-the-nation primary state got together Thursday to defend him.

A YouTube video of the address has gone viral online, and political observers have questioned whether Perry was under the influence of a substance.

"No. I was just giving a speech," Perry told the San Francisco Chronicle in a story published Thursday. "I've probably given 1,000 speeches. There are some that have been probably boring, some that have been animated, some that have been in between."

He called it "a pretty typical speech for me."

Last Friday night, Perry was unusually chatty and playful at a benefit dinner for a New Hampshire local think tank, breaking into giggles at one point after receiving a bottle of maple syrup as a parting gift. Comedians and some political observers have seized on the appearance as strange at best. And highlight videos have gone viral.

Nearly a week later, the speech was still being talked about, prompting a handful of New Hampshire Republicans to hold a press conference blaming the media and other campaigns for stoking the buzz surrounding Perry's speech.

New Hampshire House Speaker Bill O'Brien and former GOP congressional candidate Jennifer Horn told reporters that the hype had gone too far. Both attended Perry's speech, although neither is formally connected to any presidential campaign.

"We the American people are engaged in the most important responsibility we have as citizens: choosing the next leader of the free world," Horn told reporters. "And we are kind of sick and tired of the gotcha games of politicians and the political press. This sort of irresponsible unsubstantiated storytelling hurts the democratic process."

Horn lashed out at what she called "an 8-minute cut-and-paste, arts-and-crafts video project that somebody made on their desk of a 25-minute serious speech."

"Go back and look at the 25 minute speech and let that one go viral," she said. Perry has visited New Hampshire several times since launching his presidential bid in August. He has struggled in the polls so far. But New Hampshire voters saw a different man last Friday than the one they have come to know in recent months.

"I sat there thinking, 'We need to see more of this Gov. Perry,'" O'Brien said, recalling his reaction while watching the speech.

The Thursday event was the latest turn in the bizarre buzz surrounding the speech.

Comedian Jon Stewart joked on "The Daily Show" Monday night that, "Best-case scenario, that dude's hammered. Worst-case scenario, that is Perry sober, and every time we've seen him previously, he's been hammered."

Perry told the California newspaper this week that he'd have a glass of wine with Stewart "if he'll buy."

The Perry campaign said it did not organize Thursday's New Hampshire event, although Horn confirmed that she had contacted the campaign, which did not object.

Sewer worker killed in Fairview

DALLAS (AP) — One worker is dead and another is missing after they were apparently overcome by gas fumes while working on a sewer line without protective breathing equipment in North Texas, emergency officials said Thursday.

Fairview fire Chief Dick Price said the dead man's body was found Thursday morning. He said emergency personnel using oxygen and wearing protective gear are searching for the missing worker in the sewer in Fairview, a small town about 30 miles north of Dallas.

"Certainly we want to be optimistic," Price said. But he acknowledged that the chances of finding the second man alive are "pretty slim," adding that he may have been swept downstream.

The workers were likely overcome by gas when they tried to replace a plug on a line that was part of a larger sewer system, Fairview Police Chief Granver Tolliver said.

The supervisor went into the sewer without a mask or other breathing equipment to remove the plug as part of

the final stage of a yearlong operation. Tolliver said. When he didn't emerge, one of the other workers went down to get him, also without protective gear, he said.

The third worker — a brother of the man who died — went to get a rope. Tolliver said.

"This was just a wrap-up operation," Tolliver said. "They were pretty much done with the project, and they realized, 'Hey, we've got one line we need to unplug.' That probably added to the lack of safety measures."

It is standard procedure for those working on sewer lines to monitor air quality before going in, but it wasn't clear if they had conducted those checks, Price said.

"Our initial indications are that the oxygen level was probably insufficient to support their operation," Price said.

North Texas Municipal Water District spokeswoman Denise Hickey said the missing workers had been contracted from S.J. Louis Construction of Texas, Ltd.

HONOR

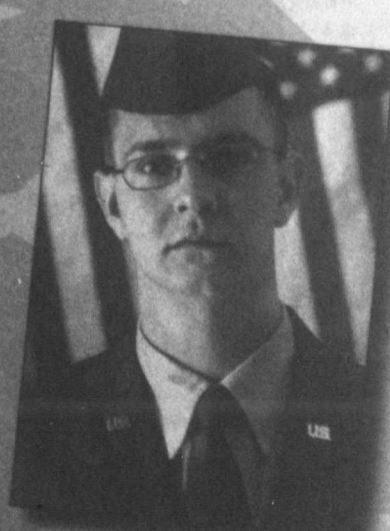
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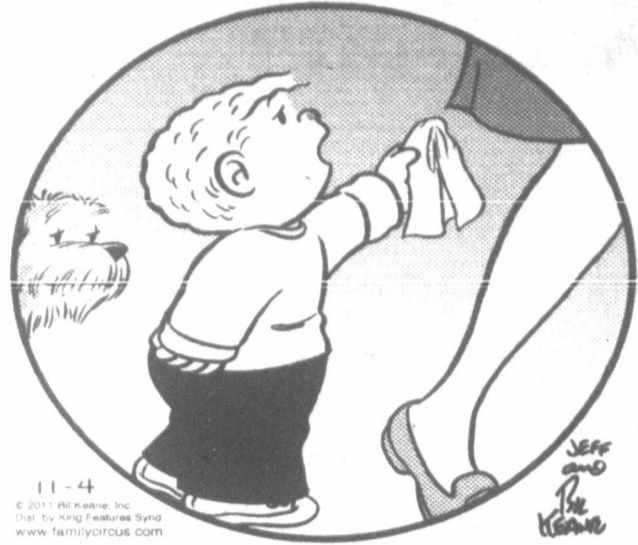
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comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



11-4

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"You can have the tissue back, Mommy. It was just a sneeze false alarm."

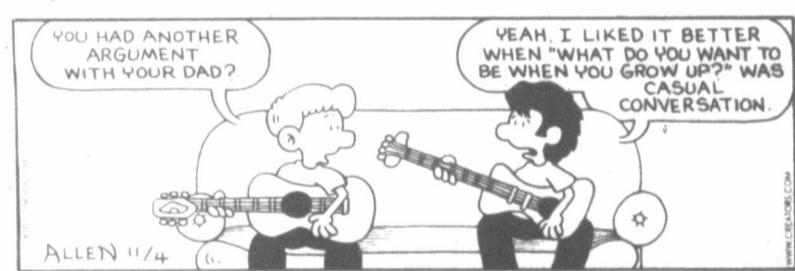
Non Sequitur



WHY, YES...BERT DID WORK AS A MORTGAGE BROKER BEFORE OPENING THIS PLACE...HOW'D YOU GUESS?

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Nest Heads



YOU HAD ANOTHER ARGUMENT WITH YOUR DAD?
YEAH, I LIKED IT BETTER WHEN "WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?" WAS CASUAL CONVERSATION.

ALLEN 11/4

daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Nov. 4, 2011:

This year you develop a new mental thought process. Allow your creativity to flow, unlike you have in the past. Others come to you with many ideas and enjoy your ability to work with them. If you are single, you could meet someone quite spectacular. Be willing to flex and grow with this person. If you are attached, the two of you act like newlyweds. You could have a new addition to your family if you're at the right place in life. PISCES is the ultimate romantic.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You simply know better than to get mixed up in a complex power play. Think "weekend" and stay away from control games. The best way to win is not to play. Renew your spirit and energy before you deal with this situation — maybe sometime next week! Tonight: Do your thing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ A friend goes out of his or her way to help you. Meetings prove to be a bonus; others are receptive and content. Detach and see others for their uniqueness. You might be lucky right now, but don't push it. Tonight: Follow the gang.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Your willingness to take the lead promotes a major change. You easily might go to excess. A partner could be more intense than usual. As determined as this person is, it might be a surprise when he or she changes his or her perspective. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Reach out for another person, knowing full well your perspective could change once you talk. Good will and direct communication open up. Groups of people prove to be unusually fortunate. Accept an invitation to join friends after work. Tonight: Where there is music.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might be more inclined to work with others directly as you discover what you need. Your ability to adjust and transform makes you resilient. Know that you can handle a situation no matter what. Choose to observe and not butt heads with others. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Others come forward with wonderful ideas. You might need to change plans in order to adapt to an offer or idea. Your flexibility counts right now. Others seek you out. Brush up on your diplomatic skills and ability to say "no." Opportunities come forward. Tonight: The only answer is yes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Though no one enjoys others and people in general more than you, you opt to finish up your work. A changing situation on the home front could evolve into a different situation. One-on-one relating takes you in a new direction. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your creativity adds lightness to intensity, making it easier for everyone to deal with some very strong feelings. Be careful about what you offer, as you might not be able to deliver. Opportunities stream your way. Tonight: Let the good times rock and roll.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Pressure builds. You have so much you would prefer to do at home. You also need to have more time to yourself. Your ability to verbalize and say what you think emerges. Stay centered with funds and spending. Tonight: Order in.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Keep communication flowing. Hold less in and be willing to discuss a problem. A lot will flow if you can let go of a situation. Your creativity is high; allow yourself to think outside the box. Others respond to your inquiries and ideas. Tonight: At your favorite hangout.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ You have the ability to think through an idea or get to the bottom of a problem. Stay close to friends, as they seem to be caring and full of ideas. Revisit your opinions about key people. Once you drop some judgments, everything changes. Tonight: Your treat.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Put your best foot forward with someone you don't necessarily agree with. Know that you cannot always be on the same page, but you can respect your differences. Someone demonstrates unusual caring through a gesture. Don't focus on a controlling friend. Tonight: As you like it.

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Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



EPA to probe fracking toll on drinking water

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP) — The Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday released the outlines of its long-awaited probe into whether hydraulic fracturing — the unconventional drilling technique that's led to a boom in domestic natural gas production — is contaminating drinking-water supplies.

Investigators will try to determine the impact of large-scale water withdrawals, aboveground spills of drilling fluids, and the fracturing process itself on water quality and quantity in states where tens of thousands of wells have been drilled in recent years.

Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, involves the high-pressure injection of millions of gallons of water, along with sand and chemical additives, deep underground to extract natural gas trapped in shale rock. Energy companies have greatly expanded their use of fracking as they tap previously unreachable shale deposits, including the lucrative Marcellus Shale formation in Pennsylvania and neighboring states.

The industry has long contended that fracking is safe, but environmentalists and some residents who live near drilling sites say it has poisoned groundwater. The EPA study, mandated by Congress last year, is the agency's first look at the impact of fracking in shale deposits.

EPA will examine drilling sites in Pennsylvania, Colorado, Louisiana, North Dakota and Texas. The earliest results will be available in 2012.

Industry groups said Thursday they are confident the study will vindicate their position that fracking does not harm the environment or human health.

"The industry has taken the lead in working with state regulators to constantly improve operations, industry practices and guidelines as well as improve communications with local communities," said Stephanie Meadows, a senior policy adviser at the American Petroleum Institute.

The institute and five other industry groups recently complained to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson that agency staff began collecting field data and water samples months before the study plan was finished. The industry groups, in an Oct. 20 letter to Jackson, also questioned the study design itself and said it could undermine the credibility of the findings.

The EPA said it began work over the summer so that it could finish the study by 2014.

The federal agency has studied fracking before, in 2004, looking at its use in coalbed methane deposits. It concluded then that the technology is safe, but its methodology was widely criticized as flawed.

The new EPA study will look at the entire water life-cycle of hydraulic fracturing in shale deposits, beginning with the industry's withdrawal of huge volumes of water from rivers and streams and ending with the treatment and disposal of the tainted wastewater that comes back out of the wells after fracking. Researchers will also study well design and the impact of surface spills of fracking fluids on groundwater.

The EPA has taken steps recently to boost federal regulation of fracking, announcing it will develop national standards for the disposal of the briny, chemical-laced wastewater and proposing for the first time to control air pollution at oil and gas wells, particularly where fracking is used.

Drillers have resisted enhanced federal regulation, saying it should be left up to individual states.

Reception

cont. from page 1

chuckle. "Old, rusty, vintage, classic pickup trucks that are out in the middle of a field.

"I just think that they have stories that they could tell. A lot of character. I just think about if those trucks could talk, what stories could they tell?"

Sutherland said that she appreciates the chance to experience the thrill of creating, even though she fell into her niche as an artist later in life.

"While I may never gain fame or fortune for my work," Sutherland said, "I'm certainly enjoying the journey."

Sutherland's exhibit will remain at the White Deer Land Museum through Nov. 30.

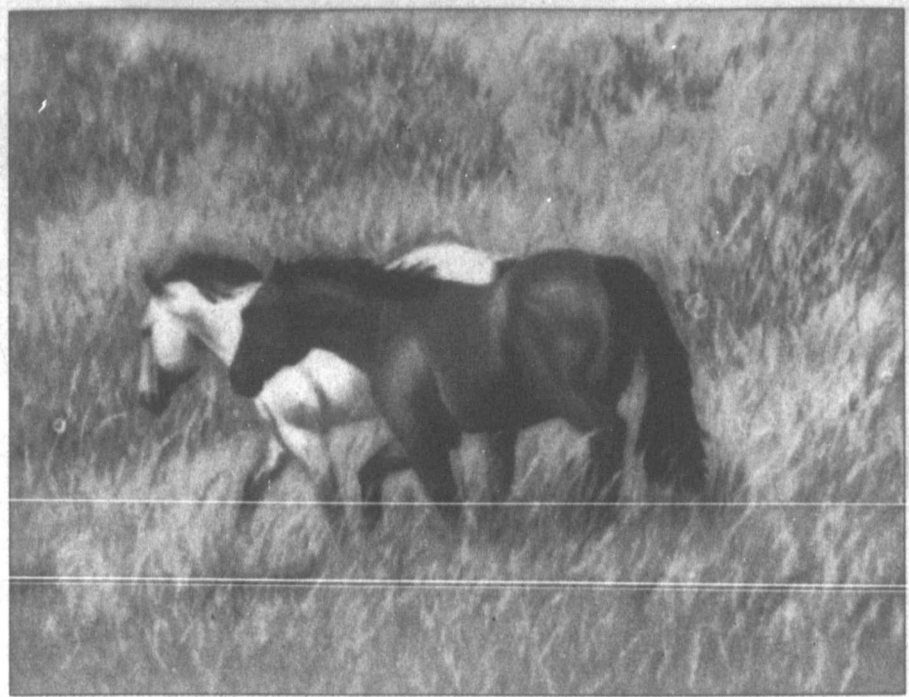


photo courtesy of Karin Sutherland

Fifty-six of Karin Sutherland's works, including this one, will be on display at the White Deer Land Museum until Nov. 30. The museum is hosting a reception for Sutherland on Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

County

cont. from page 1

Willoughby.

In other business, the commission:

- approved minutes from its prior meeting on October 14;
- approved line item transfers;
- approved budget amendments;
- approved the quarterly investment report;
- accepted a labor donation for work done by Larry Baker Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning at the Clyde Carruth Pavillion.
- approved a hangar transfer at the Perry Lefors Airport.
- approved advertising for Request for Proposals for insurance.

Skinner

cont. from page 1

Appeals to prevent the rapidly approaching November 9 execution date.

A spokesman for the Texas Attorney General's Office, which is handling appeals in the case for prosecutors, declined comment after being asked by the Associated Press for a statement on the judge's ruling.

Skinner's defense team has also filed a federal lawsuit claiming that the state of Texas violated his civil rights by withholding access to the evidence he is requesting. That lawsuit is still pending.

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 Saturday, November 5, from 11AM to 1PM
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A look at your district champion Lady Harvesters



Libby Garza, coach
Garza enters her fourth season at the helm of the Lady Harvesters and has an overall record of 85-56. She led the Lady Harvesters to their second consecutive district title.



#8 Maddie Fatheree, Jr.
Fatheree inherited the setter position from the graduated Taryn Eubank and played well. In her first season on varsity, she led the team in assists every game. Fatheree was named MVP at the River Road Tournament.



#9 Diamond Marrufo, Jr.
Marrufo is in her first season on varsity. She got playing time in the back row in lopsided games. She will have a bigger role next season.

#1 McKinlee Stokes, Sr.
Stokes was a key player on the Lady Harvesters' back row. Stokes was on the receiving end of opponents' serves. She helped get the ball to the setter.



#2 Taylor Giles, So.

Giles was one of two sophomores on the varsity this season. She received playing time in several matches.



#3 Kirsten Kuhn, Sr.
Kuhn is in her second season as the libero. Kuhn helps pass the ball to the setter or outside hitters. Kuhn has also been known for hitting the floor to prevent the ball from hitting the floor.



#5 Ramie Hutto, Sr.
Hutto is in her second season as a starting outside hitter. She was one of the leaders in kills all season. Hutto has emerged as a strong server scoring aces in several matches.

#6 Stephanie Allen, Sr.
Allen's action was limited in the second half of district due to injury. When she was on the court she was solid at blocking the opponents' hits. Allen also contributed in the kills department.



#7 Alanna Stephens, Sr.
Stephens contributed several kills from the right outside hitter position. She also was one of the strong servers. Stephens also was one of the leaders in blocks.

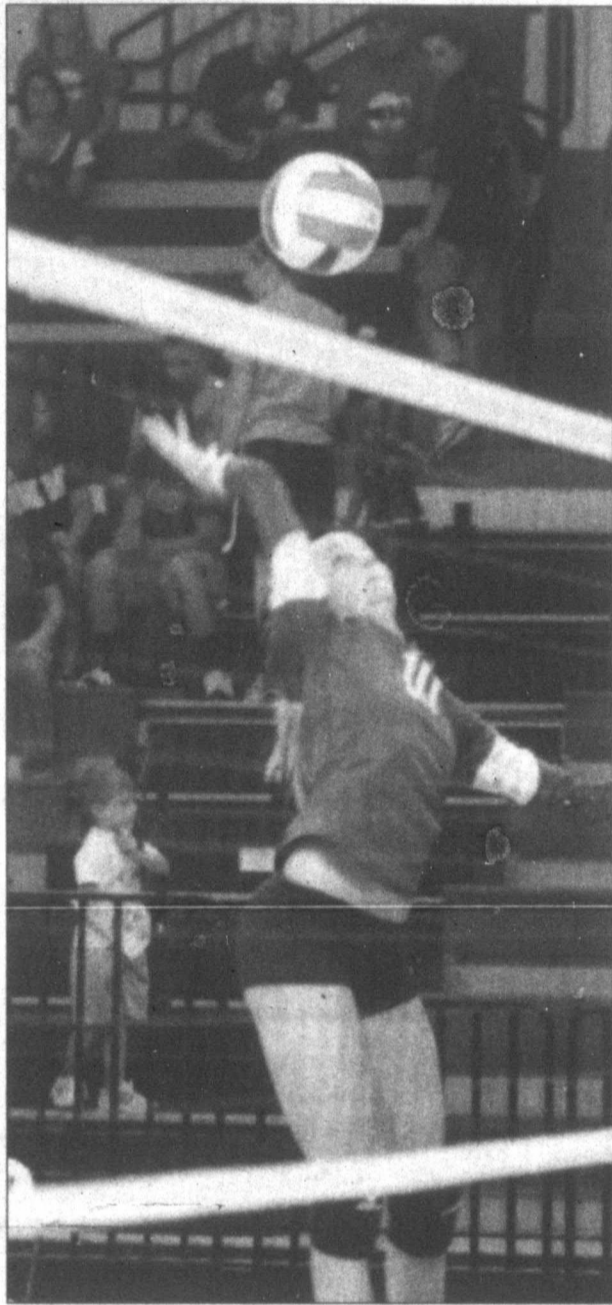


photo courtesy of James Barrington/The Canyon News

Senior Kailyn Troxell (#10) is one of the kill leaders this season. She is in her third season on varsity. Troxell also is one of the leaders in blocks.

#12 Caitlin Sieck, Sr.
Sieck spent time in the back and front row in her second varsity season. She was one of the leading servers. Sieck isn't afraid to sacrifice her body to make a play.



#13 Madison Joyce, So.
Joyce is the second sophomore on the team. She received playing time in various matches. Against Perryton she scored a kill.

#14 Calli Brewer, Jr.
Brewer is in her first season on varsity. She started in Allen's spot in the second half of district, contributing a couple of kills.



Garza recently called up two players from the junior varsity squad to travel with the team. Those two players are:

#15, Dakota Watson, Jr.
One of the front row players on the junior varsity.

#11, Taylor Eubank, Fr.
One of the JV's scoring leaders and a good defender.

Pampa will face off against Monahans at 4 p.m. Saturday at Lubbock High.

from all of us at
The PAMPA NEWS
GOOD LUCK TO OUR LADY HARVESTERS!

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

No. 12 Lady Harvesters to face Monahans in opening round

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Last season, the Pampa Lady Harvesters entered the area round without playing a game in over a week. This season, the No. 12 Lady Harvesters enter their area round matchup against the Monahans Lady Lobos battle tested as the two teams meet 4 p.m. at Lubbock High.

Pampa played two playoff warm-up matches. Saturday, the Lady Harvesters beat Lubbock and lost to No. 18 Bushland on Tuesday. Senior Kailyn Troxell said she felt the matches helped them be better prepared.

"We were able to keep our normal routine," Troxell said. "We were able to keep our level of play and get us ready."

Senior Caitlin Sieck said it will help not having much of a layover.

"It was nice not having to play a week and a half before playing our next game," Sieck said.

Pampa closed the season with the Dalhart on October 25. Head coach Libby Garza said she thinks her team is ready for the game Saturday.

"I think they're still very hungry," Garza said. "Now, it's just a matter of staying mentally focused."

Monahans (28-16) is the runner-up in District 4-3A. It lost a tiebreaker match to Andrews. Senior Alanna Stephens said the Lady Harvesters went to the match. Sieck said the Lady Lobos have strong front row players.

"They have a good block but if we keep our level of

play up we will be fine," Sieck said.

Stephens played on the softball team last spring, who lost in the area round after a bye. She said the team has to have good senior leadership to avoid that Saturday.

"You are only going to go as far as your seniors want to take you," Stephens said. "The team is mostly seniors and as long as we keep going it will keep going. You are only as strong as your weakest link."

Sieck said she feels the team is more prepared since it has seen its opponent.

"Last year we didn't see Andrews play," Sieck said. "So, we didn't know what to expect. This year we have seen Monahans."

The winner will face either Clint or Borger in the regional quarterfinals.

DALLAS COWBOYS

Cowboys ready to dust off linebacking duo of James, Brooking

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Bradie James remembers what it was like early in his career, when he was brimming with the energy and confidence to make up for whatever he didn't know about playing linebacker in the NFL. He was part of Bill Parcells' first draft class in Dallas and eager to show what he could do.

James had to wait two long seasons before becoming a starter. He got his chance in 2005, when Parcells switched to a 3-4 scheme, and he led the team in tackles that season. He's done so every season since, too, and has become a fixture as a team captain. Along the way, he's also become active in the community and, recently, a dad.

This season, James has taken on other roles: Part-timer. Special-teamer. Mentor.

The emergence of second-year line-

backer Sean Lee has shuffled the Cowboys' rotation of inside linebackers. While James remains a starter, he's splitting the position with Keith Brooking, who lost his job to Lee.

James figures it's only a matter of time before he's replaced, too.

Dallas spent a second-round pick this year on Bruce Carter despite knowing he had a knee injury that might wipe out his rookie season. Carter was on the non-football injury list the first six weeks, then was active last Sunday at Philadelphia, making his debut on special teams.

Carter and Lee are clearly the team's future at the two inside linebacker spots. Brooking is 36, James is 30 and both are in the final year under contract. They know what's happening because once they were the up-and-comers.

"I know what time it is," James said. "I've been around, I've seen it."

While they don't like being demoted — and would've appreciated coaches having discussed it with them first — they have accepted it well. Both are helping their successors learn the game. They've also offered to play more special teams as a way of gaining playing time.

This week, the transition plan likely will be put on hold. The Cowboys may be forced to go old school.

Lee, who leads the team in tackles, interceptions and fumble recoveries, has a dislocated left wrist, and Carter is still learning the system. With other backups not ready to step in, the tandem that started every game the last two seasons is likely to be together again Sunday against Seattle.

"I better get ready," James said, laughing. "I better go run some wind sprints."

James and Brooking played together most of the last game, against Philadelphia. Like the rest of the defense, they didn't exactly distinguish themselves while chasing around Michael Vick. Dallas could hardly stop the Eagles from running or throwing in easily their worst game of the season.

The challenge should be easier against Tarvaris Jackson and the Seahawks (2-5).

Coach Jason Garrett said James and Brooking have had the difficult task of trying to stay sharp while playing less. He compared it to a running back trying to be as efficient as ever yet with fewer carries.

"Sometimes they don't have that rhythm," Garrett said. "I think each of those guys, Bradie and Brook, are working through that."

Sports

PHS Sr. Thompson views playing on offensive line as brotherhood



photo courtesy of Charla Shults

Senior Schrade Thompson blocks against Lubbock Estacado on September 2. Thompson has been a starter the last two seasons. The senior calls his offensive line a brotherhood.

ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

If you were to ask Pampa High School senior Schrade Thompson what playing on the offensive line is like, he would say it's a brotherhood.

"I look up to each and everyone of the linemen that I play with," Thompson said. "It really is a family. It's like having a brother on the line."

In his second varsity season, Thompson has emerged as one of the leading blockers on the line.

Thompson said he has

always been a lineman since he started playing football in third grade, adding he was made for the position.

"I don't have to have a certain body type to play that position," Thompson said. "I've always been OK at it."

Thompson said he likes being in a position that can be crucial to the outcome of a game.

"We make or break the game," Thompson said. "If you don't have an offensive or defensive line, it's pretty much a guaranteed loss."

Thompson admitted his position doesn't always get the credit they deserve on a big

play, but said he's out there for a different purpose.

"We aren't here for credit," Thompson said. "We are here for the game."

Thompson said every play is a battle.

"You can't take one off," Thompson said. "It's a sack or a broken play."

Thompson said being on varsity the last two seasons has been a good experience and hopes he can finish strong.

"I hate that the book is about to close," Thompson said. "I got to give it everything I got and play like I've been taught."

Thompson said his favorite memory was the Palo Duro scrimmage in his junior season.

"Ryne (Richardson) tipped the ball up and I ran it for a touchdown," Thompson said.



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a 38-year-old mom and have been single for the last 10 years. I live alone with my 11-year-old daughter and support us without assistance. I work full-time and rely on my mother to take my daughter to school and pick her up while I'm at work.

Because of this, anytime I try to have any kind of relationship with a man, my mother turns against me. She acts like I no longer exist as long as I try to have a love life. Please give me some advice on what to do. — MISSING SOMETHING IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR MISSING SOMETHING: I'll try. It is time to become less emotionally dependent on your mother. At age 38, you do not need her blessing to date, and you should make that fact clear to her. If she punishes you for expecting to be treated like the adult you are, then arrange other transportation for your daughter. As long as you allow her to run your life, you will not have a life of your own.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter and I had a little disagreement the other night when I entered a restaurant holding my seven-day pill container in my hand. (I had decided to leave my bulky

purse in the car.) When we sat down, I placed the container on the table next to my place setting. Doing this helps me to remember to take the pills with my meal.

My daughter said it was "tacky" to show my pills and container. I feel it wasn't tacky at all, but my way of taking care of my health. After going back and forth on this subject, I told her I would get your opinion. My husband took my daughter's side. — LOOKING OUT FOR MY HEALTH IN ESCONDIDO, CALIF.

DEAR LOOKING: Allow me to even up the odds by taking YOUR side. Certain medications must be taken with food, and if bringing the pill container with you ensured that you wouldn't forget to take your dose in a timely manner, then more power to you. That your daughter and your husband would criticize your manners in a case like this troubles me more than any "breach of etiquette" that might have occurred. And, by the way, what you did wasn't one.

DEAR ABBY: You sometimes publish letters regarding random acts of kindness. I know people like to share how blessed they are that others have given to them. Well, I

would like to share how being the giver is a blessing as well.

My children and I eat lunch out on Saturdays. Most recently, we went to one of our favorite restaurants. As we were being seated, I noticed an elderly gentleman eating alone. He read the paper, ate his meal and kept to himself. I was struck by how alone he seemed to be. All during the lunch, I couldn't shake the feeling that I should reach out.

Finally, I gave in. I went to the counter and paid for his meal.

When the waitress brought our check to the table, she asked if we knew the man. I responded no, that we just wanted to do something nice. She then confided to me that he was a regular there, but she hadn't seen him lately because he had just lost his wife.

Abby, I was so glad I had followed my heart and reached out. I can only pray that he was as pleased by my anonymous gift as I was to give it. — RECEIVING BY GIVING IN ILLINOIS

DEAR RECEIVING BY GIVING: I'm sure he was. Your letter illustrates the pleasure that comes when we follow the dictates of our hearts. I applaud your generous gesture.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Borscht way out
- 6 Un-stressed vowel
- 11 Blown away
- 12 Assertion
- 13 Fiery crime
- 14 Neigh sayer
- 15 Tofu source
- 16 Trampled wing
- 18 Building wing
- 19 Suffer
- 20 Hoary
- 21 Like a beanpole
- 23 Mindless
- 25 Down
- 27 Stadium cry
- 28 Scatter
- 30 Start a hand
- 33 Spot
- 34 Move up and down
- 36 Ignored a diet
- 37 Stack component
- 39 Retina part
- 40 Rap sheet item

DOWN

- 41 On the way out
- 43 Slow-witted
- 44 Gold unit
- 45 Periphery
- 46 Woods with woods
- 8 Saying "huh?," maybe
- 9 In a sage manner
- 10 Make better
- 17 Free film
- 22 Disfigure
- 24 Passing craze
- 26 Cheapens
- 28 Closed tight
- 29 Stir-fry vessel
- 31 Now
- 32 Account book
- 33 Black card
- 35 Fathered
- 38 Beer buy
- 42 Yves' yes

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

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BANANAGRAMS!

Use the 15 tiles in this bunch to create words that fit into the grids below. To get you started, a few tiles from the bunch have been placed and the BANANA BITES provide hints. Reuse the 15 tiles in the bunch for each grid.

SAIOTOI
LNBERAEI

BANANA BITE: One word is a type of footwear.

BANANA BITE: One word means "foreigners."

Yesterday's Answer: ROBIN, PIGEON, SPARROW

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

5	2	6	7	9	8	4	3	1
7	4	9	3	5	1	6	8	2
8	1	3	4	2	6	5	9	7
9	7	2	1	4	5	8	6	3
4	8	5	6	3	7	1	2	9
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Level: Advanced

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

PREMIERE ANTIQUE, COIN & CURRENCY BUYERS VISIT PAMPA IN SEARCH OF HIDDEN TREASURES.

Gold & Silver items including Jewelry, Coins, and Sterling items are in Great Demand as Prices Soar to Historic Highs!

David Morgan
STAFF WRITER

If you have a jewelry box with bling from an old fling, you may want to haul it down to the Hampton Inn this week. You may be sitting on a small fortune, explains PACCBC show coordinator Gary Denomme, "Today's gold & silver prices are at an all time high and it's definitely a seller's market." One broken gold chain or an old class ring could be worth a week's salary, said Denomme.



Family cashes in on inherited sterling silverware set and walked away with a check for \$1,746.00

"People are just amazed at what these types of items are worth in today's market. I urge anyone with gold or silver in any form to sell it right now." For the past 25 years gold has been trading at levels below \$350.00 per ounce and silver at \$4.00 per ounce. Currently, gold and silver is trading at many times that price. PACCBC professionals will test any of your gold or silver jewelry for free, so bring it in even if you are not sure what it is.

"IT'S UNBELIEVABLE, I BROUGHT IN SOME OLD COINS THAT HAD BEEN IN A LITTLE CIGAR BOX FOR YEARS AND SOME OLD HERRINGBONE NECKLACES—IN LESS THAN FIFTEEN MINUTES I LEFT WITH A CHECK FOR \$700."

Other items they will be looking at include dental gold, flatware sets, tea pots, silver platters, and anything marked .925 or sterling. Even if

you're not sure what it is, bring it in and PACCBC reps will test it for free.

Silver coins made before 1970 including Silver Dollars, Half Dollars, Quarters and Dimes are highly sought after as well. These coins are 90% silver and worth many times their face value. PACCBC's head company, THR & Associates hosts over 4000 shows each year throughout the US, Canada and Europe. They are one of the largest companies in the country that buys directly from the public. Their shows are held in all size markets and anyone can sell directly them. "We pay on the spot," said Denomme. "It's a fun experience and you can bring in your items and leave with cash in hand just a few minutes later. Other items the group will be buying this week include pocket and wrist watches, all old coins and currency, vintage guitars and musical instruments, war memorabilia, train sets, toys, pottery, dolls, diamonds, costume jewelry. If it's old we want to see it.

**WE BUY ALL
GOLD & SILVER
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INFORMATION

WHO PREMIERE ANTIQUE, COIN & CURRENCY BUYERS

WHAT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TO SELL THEIR VALUABLES

WHERE HAMPTON INN
2820 N PERRYTON PKWY
PAMPA, TX 79065

WHEN OCT 31ST - NOV 5TH
MON-FRI 9AM-6PM
SATURDAY 9AM-4PM

DIRECTIONS 806.669.1555
INFORMATION 217.787.7767

What We Buy:

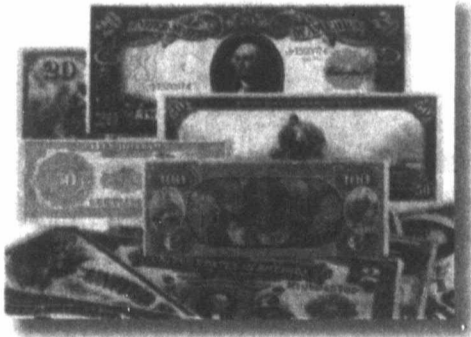
COINS

Any and all coins made before 1970, rare coins, entire collections, silver dollars, half dollars, and all others.



PAPER CURRENCY

All denominations made before 1934.



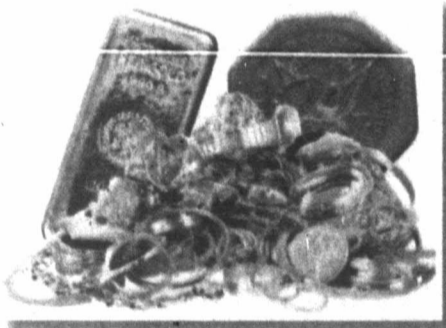
GOLD COINS

Including \$20, \$10, \$5, \$4, \$3, \$2.5, \$1, Private Gold, Gold Bars, etc.



GOLD

Broken and unused jewelry, dental gold, Kruggerrands, Canadian Maple Leafs, Pandas, gold bars, U.S. Eagles, etc.



WRIST & POCKET WATCHES

Rolex, Tiffany, Omega, Chopard, Cartier, Philippe, Ebel, Waltham, Swatch, Elgin, Bunn Special, Railroad, Illinois, all others.



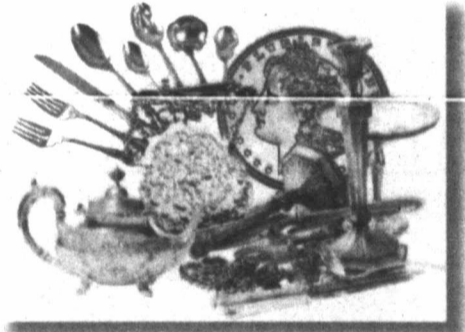
PLATINUM

Anything made of platinum.



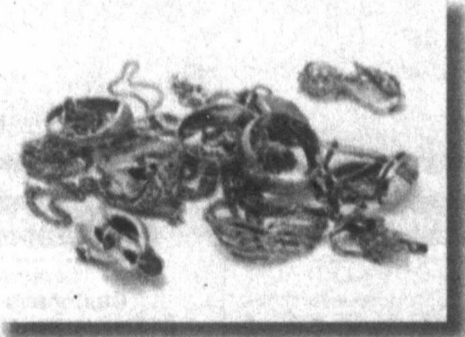
SILVER

Flatware, tea sets, goblets, jewelry and anything marked sterling.



BROKEN JEWELRY

New or Old: mismatched earrings, bracelets, loose diamonds, all gem stones, etc.



GUITARS & INSTRUMENTS

Fender, Gibson, Martin, Rickenbacker, Gretsch, amps, saxophones, wood winds, and all others.

